

TimeCalc

G.H. Kuiper

COLLABORATORS

	<i>TITLE :</i> TimeCalc		
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REVISION HISTORY

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Chapter 1

TimeCalc

1.1 TimeCalc v1.0 - Documentation

TimeCalc v1.0 ShareWare version

A comprehensive calendar/clock program for the Amiga 1200
Copyright ©1996 LODGE
All Rights Reserved

Dedicated to the memory of
Jay Miner
who made the Amiga possible

Registration

Installation

Backgrounds

User Guide

About LODGE

Credits

TimeCalc v1.0 is Copyright ©1996 by LODGE. All rights reserved. TimeCalc is released under the commonly known concept of ShareWare. With TimeCalc the authors mean: the executable file with everything in it. The authors claim no rights or bare any responsibility to the contents of the files named 'HistoBaseDates.tcf' and 'Presets.tcf'. The authors are not responsible for any damage whatsoever caused by using this program. This archive may only be distributed in unmodified form. None of the files in it may be altered in any way, no files may be added or removed. Distributors may not charge for this archive, other than the cost of media and duplication and P&P fees.

Distribution

is allowed in all available formats, such as Internet, BBS's, CD-ROM's, floppy disks and cover disks of magazines.

1.2 A word on distribution...

A word on distribution...

The distribution of this program will start on several Dutch Amiga oriented BBS's. Of course we would like it very much that Amiga users all over the world can test this program and consider paying the registration fee. Therefore we would like to ask you to spread this archive (in its original state) as much as possible. We do not have the possibility to upload files to the Internet. If you have this possibility, please upload this file to Aminet or any Amiga archive on the Internet. If you do this we thank you very much!. Also if you know any good BBS's, do not hesitate to upload TimeCalc to them. Its a large file, so you will get some nice download credits by doing so....

1.3 How to register TimeCalc...

The shareware version of TimeCalc has some limitations over the full working registered version. These limitations are there to encourage you to register (in other words send us money) for the full product. The limitations that are put on the shareware version of TimeCalc are:

- * The save option is disabled.
- * The number of clocks on the WorldTimes screen is limited to 4.

If you find yourself using this program on a regular base (once a week or more), please consider to register. Registered users will receive a code that will enable all the functions of this program. Furthermore you will receive the next available minor update of TimeCalc and have the right to purchase the next major update at a special price. Of course this major update can take some time to be available, but we will NOT forget you when the moment is there. When you register yourself as a TimeCalc user you will receive a letter with some information on other LODGE products and some more information on the advantages of being a registered user. You will not regret it...

Registering TimeCalc can be done in various ways and currencies:

Nederland - 25 gulden storten op bankrekeningnummer 313090858
onder vermelding van TimeCalc Registratie en
stuur een briefkaart met naam, adres en evt.
telefoonnummer naar het onderstaande adres.
Een EuroCheque sturen mag natuurlijk ook...

Europe - Please send a EuroCheque worth 25 Guilders to the
adress below and send a (nice) postcard with your
name and adress to the adress below.

Planet Earth - Please send \$15 in a envelope with your name in General and adress to the adress below. Please make sure that the bank notes aren't visible through the envelope or postman Pat will steal them!

!!!! Please allow 28 days for receiving your registration code. !!!!
(We'll try to send it ASAP after we received your money)

Note:

If you experience any problems with sending us the money, please let us know. We will try to work out a solution for you.

The Adress of LODGE is:

R. Roemeling
Graaf Edzardstraat 46
9902HC Appingedam
The Netherlands

It's NOT possible to contact us by phone or e-mail (Sorry :()

1.4 How to install TimeCalc...

What do I need to run this program?

- An Amiga 1200 or 4000 computer. An Amiga 2000 with KickStart 3.x and AGA-emulation through a 24-bit graphics card should work, but don't blame us if it doesn't. Lesser computers will not run this version of TimeCalc... (sorry 'bout that!)
- A hard disk would be nice but is not really needed. The presence of a hard disk really speeds up things though. You'll need approx. 400Kb of (hard) disk space to install TimeCalc.
- A copy of the ASL.library (version 40.6 and up will do).

The installation of TimeCalc v1.0 is very easy to do. We haven't included a separate installation facility, so you'll have to do it manually. Just follow the following steps and everything will be ready to use TimeCalc.

- 1) Determine were you would like the program to be on your harddisk and create a directory called TimeCalc in the partition, directory or subdirectory of your choice.
- 2) Copy the files TimeCalc and TimeCalc.info and TimeCalc.dat into the directory you created.
- 3) Copy the files HistoBaseDates.tcf and Presets.tcf to the S-directory of your boot-partition.
- 4) Put the TimeCalc AmigaGuide document and its icon in the same directory as you put the program.

Of course you can use TimeCalc if you do not own an Amiga 1200 with hard disk. In order to do this, you will have to format a disk, create an S-directory on it and follow steps 1 to 3 as described above. Then you'll

have to create a Libs-directory and copy the following files from your original Workbench disk: MathIEEEsing.library, MathIEEEdoubbas.library, MathIEEEdoubtrans.library and ASL.library to this directory. If you do not have the ASL.library, you can find it on Aminet or on one of the Aminet CD's.

If you have any problems with the installation and/or usage of this program, please let us know. We will try to help you with your questions. You can also contact us if you have comments on this version, found bugs in it or have any suggestions for a future version of this program. We are also interested in Internet addresses that contain information on things like history, time and (historic) dates. Also if you know interesting books and magazines on these subjects, we would like to hear from you (especially if you are living in the Netherlands).

Click

here

to view the adress where LODGE can be reached.

1.5 Backgrounds of TimeCalc

Backgrounds of TimeCalc

Thank you for downloading this file! Now you probably want to know what it is all about...

The idea to create a program like TimeCalc has always been a silent wish of the time freak that I am. It would have been done a long time ago if I were a programmer, but that was and is not the fact. The idea kept rumbling around in my brain until I noticed that one of my friends could program in C on the Amiga. I asked him if he would create the program for me. He agreed and asked me to write down the specifications I wished. After a short period of designing the options and user-interface for the program, the programming could commence.

During the programming of TimeCalc, several major and minor changes were made, most of the bugs were exterminated and very extensive beta-testing was performed during several stages of the programming process.

When the release version of the program was completed, it had been under construction for more than 2.5 years... This was mainly caused by intensive beta-testing en bug hunting.

1.6 TimeCalc user-guide

To get more information on the many functions of TimeCalc you can [↔](#)
click on

one of the buttons below. Each button corresponds with the topic it is labelled with. The topics are divided in 3 groups, one for each application within TimeCalc...

```
Starting TimeCalc
  >> Main Screen <<    >>Other Screens<<

    System Clock

The HistoBase

    Time Buffers

Calculated Time

    World Times

    Time Units

    Buffer Status

    Preferences

    Graphic Clock

    Time Progress

    Presets

    Dual Calendar

    Bugs and Known Problems
```

1.7 Bugs and Known Problems

Allthough this program has been tested in a very intensive way and over a long period of time (almost 3 years!) we would not be honest to say that there are no bugs. We've tried very hard to make it as bug-free as possible, but nobody's perfekt.

We do know that there are a few problems with the program:

Behavior of this program on non standard screenmodes.

Using non standard screenmodes (multisync, DoublePAL etc.) the program can cause problems. It should work on a 'standard' 640*256 Worbench screen. If you use another screen than this, TimeCalc might refuse to work. Try using a mode-promotion tool like NewMode, PSI or something similair. The programmer will TRY to implement support for non standard screen modes ASAP.

Behavior of this program on different Amiga's.

TimeCalc was tested on the following configurations and performed as it should...

- Amiga 1200 (2Mb) -> free as much memory as you can...
 - Amiga 1200 with MBX1200z (2Mb + 28MHz 68881) ->OK!
 - Amiga 1200 with Blizzard card (4Mb + 68020) -> OK!
 - Amiga 1200 with Blizzard card (2Mb + 68030 + 40MHz 68881) -> OK!
 - Amiga 1200 with Apollo card (4Mb + 68030 + 40MHz 68881) -> OK!
-

- Amiga 4000 with 68030 + many Mb ->OK! (except for screenmodes)

1.8 Starting TimeCalc

Starting TimeCalc

A few moments after TimeCalc is started from the Workbench (preferred method) or CLI, the 256 color title screen (that was created using Imagine 2 and turned out quite nice) will be displayed. To continue you will have to press the left mouse button. After a second or two the TimeCalc main screen will appear. On this screen you will find an overwhelming scala of options and displays. Each of them is explained in this AmigaGuide.

Please note that you can go from one part of the program to another by clicking the button with the name of the desired part on it. These buttons can be found at the lowest part of every screen of this program.

User Guide Menu

1.9 SystemClock

System Clock

The system clock display shows the time of day as a digital watch or clock would do. The time that is displayed on this clock is read from the (real-time) clock inside your Amiga 1200 or 4000. Please note that although the various digits of this display are clickable, clicking on them will have no effect whatsoever. The clickability of these digits is just a remnant of options that were abandoned during early stages of the development of the program and could not be removed because of the way TimeCalc was programmed.

Beneath the clock display you will find three buttons labeled 'Today is the day', 'Set Alarm' and 'Set Clock'.

When you click on the 'Today is the day' button, the program will search the HistoBase for events that took place on the same date (day and month) as the date (day and month) that is currently set in your Amiga 1200 or 4000's (real time) system clock. If one or more corresponding dates are found in the HistoBase, a list of these dates will be displayed. Below this list you will find four buttons. With the 'Print' button you can print the contents of this list to a printer. Clicking on the 'DateSort' button will result in the list being displayed in chronological order. Clicking on the 'AlphaSort' will result in the list being displayed in alphabetical order. To return from this list to the TimeCalc screen, you'll need to click on the 'Back' button in the lower right corner of the screen. Please note that when then the HistoBase is called upon for the first time after TimeCalc was started (i.e. the 'HistoBase' or 'Copy HistoBase Entry' button was not clicked) it has to be loaded from (hard) disk. Any further calling upon the HistoBase will not require reloading it.

Clicking on the 'Set Alarm' button will have no effect because this function has not been implemented into the program yet. The 'Set Clock' button will start the Commodore 'Time Preferences' program. This program is part of the Commodore Amiga Workbench and should be located in a directory called 'Prefs' on the boot drive of your Amiga 1200 or 4000. With 'Time Preferences' you can alter the current settings of your Amiga's (real time) system clock. For more information on the use of this program, I refer to the 'Workbench 3.x User Guide' which is provided with each Amiga 1200 or 4000.

User Guide Menu

1.10 Time Buffer 1 and 2

Time Buffer 1 and Time Buffer 2

These displays form the essence of TimeCalc, they are the input handlers for the core function of the program. Each buffer holds an user defineable date. This date consists of the following elements:

- * The name of the selected day (Sun, Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri and Sat). This day is automatically determined from the date.
- * The number of the day in the month (1 to 31).
- * The name of the month (January to December).
- * The year (9999 BC to 9999 AD).
- * An AD (Anno Domini) or BC (Before Christ) indication.
- * The time of day (00:00:00 to 23:59:59)

The default settings for both buffers is
Sun 01 January 1900 AD 00:00:00

Above and below these elements (except for the name of day indication) you will find buttons labelled '+' and '-'. With these buttons you can alter the contents of the digit/indication that is above or below it. The thousands, hundreds, tens and singles can be controlled in an independant way. If an element is about to change to a higher or lower number of digits, this will go automatically. Just try it out and you'll find out how it works.

It is also possible to type in a date or a part of it. To do this, you must click the button with the name of the day on it. A small window will appear, in which you can type the desired date or part of it you want to change. After you typed in the desired date, click the 'Done' button to continue.

Next to each of the two Time Buffer you will find three so called 'radio buttons' labelled 'Copy System Time', 'Copy HistoBase Entry' and 'Reset'. With the 'Copy System Time' button you can copy the current settings of your Amiga 1200 or 4000's internal (real time) system clock to the corresponding Time Buffer. When you press the 'Copy HistoBase Entry' button, the HistoBase list will appear on your screen. If you didn't use the 'Today is the day' or 'HistoBase' button after you started TimeCalc, the HistoBase has to be loaded in the memory of your Amiga. This can take a few moments. You can now

select a HistoBase entry/record. The date in the selected entry/record will be copied to the corresponding Time Buffer. The description of the date can be read in the status display. The 'Reset' button, finally, will reset the contents of the corresponding Time Buffer to its default settings.

User Guide Menu

1.11 CalcTime

Calculated Time

In this section of the main TimeCalc screen the difference between the contents of TimeBuffer 1 and TimeBuffer 2. The default setting of this display is:

+ 00000 YEARS 00 MONTHS 00 DAYS 00:00:00

This is because the default contents of the two TimeBuffers is equal. As soon as you change the contents of either buffer you will notice that the values in the 'Calc. Time' display change. Let's say you want to know what your exact age is. The first step you take is entering (manually or via the HistoBase) your date of birth in TimeBuffer 1. Next you click on the 'Copy System Time' button next to 'TimeBuffer 2'. The current time will be copied from your Amiga's internal (battery backed-up) clock to this buffer. When you now look at the contents of the 'Calc. Time' buffer, you'll see your exact age in years, months and days. If you know the time of day you were born, you can (manually only) set this time in 'TimeBuffer 1'. This will result in an even more exact representation of your current age, hours, minutes and seconds included. If you do not have an internal battery backed-up clock on your Amiga, you'll have to set the current time manually by using the 'Set Clock' button in the 'System Clock' section of the main 'TimeCalc' screen.

User Guide Menu

1.12 Time Units

Time Units

The time units display shows the difference in time between TimeBuffer 1 and TimeBuffer 2 in a certain time measurement unit. This unit can be selected by pressing the cycle button on the lower right of the screen. The available units are: Millennium, Century, Score, Decennium, Year, Month, Fortnight, Weeks, Days, Hours, Minutes and Seconds. We tried to make the display as accurate as possible.

Above the forementioned cycle button you can find three buttons. The first

button is labeled 'Copy from Preset List' will call up a new screen on which you can see some preset times. This option is very useful if, for instance, you are a farmer and want to know when your sheep will give birth to their lambs. You can do this by entering the day of conception in TimeBuffer 1. Then you click on the 'Copy from Preset List' button and select the 'Average gestation period of a Sheep' entry. This period will now be copied to the TimeUnits display. At the same moment the expected date of birth of your lambs will be displayed in time buffer 1. Of course there are many more ways to use this option. We've included about forty example entries in the preset list for you to check out. The next button is labeled 'Convert Mode'. With this button you can control the way the various displays are updated when you use the time units-cycle button. This function is a bit difficult to explain, so I suggest you try it out yourself and find out how it works. The last button, labeled 'Reset' will reset the contents of the Time Units display to its default setting of 0.0.

User Guide Menu

1.13 Buffer Status

Buffer Status

The buffer status display tells you the current status of time buffer 1, time buffer 2 and time units. The default status of all three buffers is 'Idle'. The moment you change one of the forementioned buffers, information about this change is displayed in the corresponding status line. Apart from 'Idle' there are several other possible status messages.

'Altered by user' means that the previous contents of the corresponding buffer was changed manually.

'System time' means that the previous contents of the corresponding buffer was overwritten by the current output of your Amiga's internal (real time) clock. This happens after you used the 'Copy System Time' option on one of the time buffers.

The last, and most interesting, status message consists of the contents of the description field of a HistoBase entry. This type of message is displayed after you used the 'Copy HistoBase Entry' option of one of the time buffers.

User Guide Menu

1.14 Graphic Clock

Graphic Clock

The graphic clock displays time of day as a traditional analogue

clock. The time that is displayed on this clock is read from the (real-time) clock inside your Amiga 1200 or 4000.

User Guide Menu

1.15 Time Progress Bar

Time Progress Bar

The time progress display shows the progress of time as a so called progress bar. The further the bar is to the right, the further the time in the selected time unit has progressed. The time progress corresponds with the (real-time) clock inside your Amiga 1200 or 4000. With the cycle button beneath the progress bar you can select one of the following time units: Year (default), Month, Week, Day, Hour, Minute, Century, Score and Decade.

User Guide Menu

1.16 Dual Calendar Display

Dual Calendar Display

The dual calendar display shows a calendar of the month that you selected in one of the time buffers. The calendar on the left corresponds with the time in time buffer 1, the one on the right corresponds with the time in time buffer 2. The day that is selected in either buffer is highlighted in the corresponding calendar display.

User Guide Menu

1.17 The HistoBase Screen

The HistoBase Screen

The HistoBase Screen is where you can view, add, alter, sort and delete data on historical events. The largest part of the screen is used by the displaying of 22 HistoBase entries. You will notice that when you selected the 'HistoBase' for the first time after you started TimeCalc and did not use the 'Today is the day' or 'Copy HistoBase Entry' on the main TimeCalc screen, some disk activity will take place. This is the HistoBase being loaded into the memory of your Amiga. The HistoBase you get for free (isn't that nice?) with TimeCalc is really MASSIVE. It contains of over 1700 dates, starting with the assassination

of Julius Caesar and ending with the end of civilization as we know it (allegedly).

This HistoBase is compiled from so many sources (books, magazines, tv programmes, CD-ROM's, lists and so on) we could not possibly start to name them all. The HistoBase contains dates on a great number of interesting subjects (news, sports, celebrities and entertainment). The HistoBase has three fields: 'Nr', 'Date' and 'Description'. The 'Date' field contains the date of a historical event. A date must be entered in the following way: DD-MM-YYYY. We know that in some countries the way dates are written down are different. We will try to implement these different notations in a future version of TimeCalc. For the moment all you American Amiga users have to do it the Dutch (amongst others) way. The 'Description' field contains the description of a historical event. This description may contain up to 55 characters and all readable ASCII characters are allowed. The 'Nr' (number) field, finally, cannot be accessed by the user and is generated automatically by HistoBase.

-- Note -----
I'm planning to release updates of the HistoBase on a regular base. These updates will be uploaded to several bulletin boards in the Netherlands. You can recognize an update as follows: It is named HBDxxxx.LhA, where xxxx stands for the number of entries that the HistoBase in the archive contains. As I'm updating the 'mother' HistoBase on almost a daily base I've decided to upload an update the moment it has about 100 entries more than the last version. I will also keep checking the accuracy of the HistoBase's contents and correct any incorrect data when I find something.

Below the main HistoBase display you will find several buttons. The function of each of these buttons will be explained now. With the 'Add Entry' button you can call up a window in which you can add, alter or delete a HistoBase entry. First enter the description of the historical event you want to add, then its date (remember DD-MM-YYYY !). With the 'Prev' and 'Next' buttons you can move backwards and forwards in the list. With the 'Delete' button you can, well eh, delete the HistoBase entry that is currently displayed in the editable fields. The program will not ask things like 'Are you sure?' so deleted is deleted... The same applies to additions and alterations you make in the HistoBase: as soon as you press return after entering a date, the changes will be implemented into the HistoBase. With the 'Exit' button you can leave the edit window.

By using the 'Load' and 'Save' buttons you can load and save HistoBases from and to (hard) disk. Do not forget to save the HistoBase every time you altered it. TimeCalc will not (yet) warn you to save your work if you quit the program. Of course you can create your own HistoBases (for example with important dates in your lifetime). Be sure to give these alternative HistoBases their own names so the big HistoBase ('HistoBaseDates.tcf') is not overwritten and lost. The 'DateSort' and 'AlphaSort' buttons can be used to sort the currently loaded HistoBase. The 'DateSort' button causes the program to sort all the HistoBase entries in chronological order, according to the contents of the 'Date' fields. Clicking the 'AlphaSort' button will result in an alphabetically ordered HistoBase list. The entries are sorted according to the contents of the

'Description' fields.

With 'WordSearch' and 'DateSearch' you can search the HistoBase's contents for one or more desired entries. After you clicked the 'WordSearch' button, you can enter a word or part of it. After pressing the return key the program will search the 'Description' fields of the HistoBase and selects entries which contain the exact word or part of the word you entered. It is not an intelligent search, so be carefull with what you enter. The 'DateSearch' button enables you to perform an intelligent search of the contents of the 'Date' fields of the HistoBase. With this option you can use wildcards. Here are a few search examples that will explain the workings of this option:

** - 12 - 196*

This will result in a list of all entries in the HistoBase that took place in December during the 1960's.

** - ** - 199*

This will result in a list of all entries in the HistoBase that took place during the 1990's

2* - 11 - 1963

This will result in a list of all entries in the HistoBase that took place between the 20th and 29th of November 1963.

(The history freaks amongst you will recognize this period!)

The results of any search will be displayed as a list with the descriptions and dates that correspond with the entered keywords or dates. At the bottom of such a list of results you will find four buttons. With the 'Print' button you can output the current list to a printer. With the 'DateSort' and 'AlphaSort' buttons you can sort the current list respectively according to date or alphabet. Clicking the 'Back' button will bring you back to the full HistoBase contents display.

User Guide Menu

1.18 World Times Screen

The World Times Screen

This is quite a spectacular screen. It shows the current times in 40 major cities around the world. Now you can find out what, for example, the time is on the Hawaii Islands, in Paramaribo, Moscow or Christchurch. You will notice that one of the locations, by default this is Amsterdam, is highlighted in blue. You can alter this 'home' indication to your own (approximate) location on the 'Prefs' screen. Please refer to the documentation on that screen for more information on this option. Clicking on the beige(ish) button at the right side of a location will result in a resizable analogue clock with date of that particular location being displayed. With shareware version of TimeCalc you can display up to 3 clocks simultaneously, the

registered version allows you to display up to 14 clocks being displayed at the same time. To remove a clock from the screen, just click on the forementioned beige(ish) button and it will be removed. You can also use the 'Clear' button at the bottom of the screen. All the clocks on the screen will be removed then. Please note that TimeCalc will remember the number, position(s) and size(s) of the clock(s) currently displayed on the screen as long as the program is active.

User Guide Menu

1.19 Preferences Screen

The Preferences Screen

This screen is not very well developed yet. You will see several sections on this screen. At the top there is a section with two buttons labeled 'Conform Quit' and 'Extra Clock'. With the first button you can (de)activate an extra conformation requester which will appear when you use the red 'Quit' button on the main TimeCalc screen. The 'Extra Clock' button does have no effect because this function is not implemented in the program and will probably disappear in a future version. The default setting for both buttons is 'Off'. The next section contains a single cycle button. With this button you can localize (well sort of...) your copy of TimeCalc. The city, Amsterdam by default, which is displayed in this button corresponds with the 'World Times' screen and causes the selected city to be highlighted in blue on this screen.

The following section (the one with the strange characters and the slider bar) is not yet implemented in TimeCalc and therefore it doesn't work at the moment. This will almost certainly and hopefully happen in a future version of TimeCalc.

In the next section you can alter the output settings of TimeCalc. You can modify the number of characters per line and the number of lines per page in which the output will be formatted. You can also select the way data will be exported from TimeCalc. You can export data to a printer or to an ASCII-file on your (hard) disk. With the 'Test' button you can check if the current settings are correct, both for printer and file output. A test output will be sent to the printer or to an ASCII file, depending on the method you selected. The 'Reset' button causes the settings to return to their default setting.

In the last section on the Presets Screen you can modify the locations of the 2 different data files 'HistoBaseDates.tcf' and 'Presets.tcf' and the location of the output file 'TimeCalc.output'.

With 'LoadPrefs' and 'SavePrefs' buttons you can load saved 'Prefs' or save the current 'Prefs'.

The 'Register' button, finally, is used to register the program. You'll need a registration code for this. To learn more about registering TimeCalc, please read the

'Registration'
section of this guide.

Non-active members of LODGE are: AVA (Mr. Merlin) - Zenphyr (Mr. 2Mb)

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1.22 TimeCalc Credits List

The following people contributed to the completion of TimeCalc v1.0:

Ronald Roemeling
Programming and debugging the whole thing.

Gert Kuiper
Devising the concept, designing the GUI and title screen and finding and entering most of the dates in the HistoBase.

Warnie Meeder
Beta testing, giving some suggestions, composing the 'Theme from TimeCalc'
musical score and finding most of the pop music related dates.

and last but not least:
Johannes Nicolai
Finding the Formula One Grand Prix related dates.

TimeCalc was developed in the period from June 1993 to February 1996.
The first version (1.0) was released on 06-03-1996.

The following Amiga software was used to create this program:

* Matt Dillon's Dice C-Compiler version 2.0
 running under Dusty Murray's modified Cee Environment