Using an Iomega ZIP drive

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Using an Iomega ZIP drive

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                      A Dummy Guide For The Iomega ZIP Drive
                    +
        Macintosh/IBM formatted Iomega ZIP Mountists
        ==================================================


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1.2 Introduction

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It seems that a lot of Amiga users are asking for help on how to read/write
a PC or a Macintosh formatted ZIP disk, how to connect the ZIP drive, how
to format an Amiga ZIP disk and so on: now you have here the 2 mountlists that all
the world was looking for, a brief explanation on how to use them and a lot
of other usefull tips and tricks!

I have to say that English is not my first language, so it's possible that
you aren't going to read a Shakespear-like text;-)

1.3 Connecting an IOMEGA ZIP drive to your AMIGA

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Connecting an IOMEGA ZIP drive to your AMIGA:
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You can add a _SCSI_ ZIP drive to your Amiga simply by buying the drive,
buying a SCSI controller, (if you have a A3000 you already have an
integrated SCSI controller; if not, you can easily buy a SCSI card for all
the Amiga models), and connecting the two using the supplied 25-25 SCSI
cable (you'll find the SCSI cable into the original ZIP box).
Make sure that both the Amiga and the ZIP are turned off when you connect
the cable!

!!!! At present is _NOT_ possible to use a PARALLEL Zip drive with an Amiga

```
!!!! computer, so don't buy one !!!
```

Before turning on your computer, make sure to set correctly the ID number
and the termination on the ZIP drive (if the ZIP is the only external SCSI
unit that you have attached, turn _ON_ the termination!).

When turning on the Amiga and the ZIP drive, it's possible that your Amiga
will not boot and the SCSI led (the red one) of the ZIP drive is on: it
means that you have 2 SCSI units that are using the same ID: simply turn
of the computer and the ZIP and change the ZIP's SCSI ID. (you can set it
to 5 or 6).

1.4 Using the mountlists

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Using the mountlists:
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Simply copy the mountlists (including the icon file;-) to the
Devs/DOSDrivers or the Storage/DOSDrivers directory of your boot disk.
(if you don't like the MagicWB-like icons, simply change them;-)

If you are still using a 1.2 or 1.3 Workbench, you have to edit your
Devs/Mountlist file and insert here the ZIP mountlists.

It's obvious that you have to have CrossDOS and/or CrossMAC installed to
use these mountlists!

- CrossDOS is shipped with any new Amiga and with any Amiga equipped with the
  Workbench 2.1 or better.
  If you like, you can buy a Professional version of CrossDos (CrossDos 6.0);
  with it it's more easy to set-up a PC ZIP disk and it's a lot faster too
  when reading/writing a disk.

- CrossMAC is a commercial product, you can buy it from any good Amiga shop!

1.5 Mounting a PC/Macintosh ZIP drive

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Mounting a PC/Macintosh ZIP drive:
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You have 2 choices:

* open a SHELL window and type:

```
        Mount ZIPPC:              or
        Mount ZIPMAC:
```

* Doubleclick the ZIPPC or the ZIPMAC icon that you have moved to the
  Devs/DOSDrivers drawer.

1.6   Reading/Writing a PC/Macintosh formatted ZIP disk

Reading/Writing a PC/Macintosh formatted ZIP disk:
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Simply insert the ZIP disk, mount the corresponding device (ZIPPC or
ZIPMAC) and start using the ZIP disk like it was an Amiga formatted one!
Depending of the SCSI controller that you are using, it's possible that
your Amiga will not show the disk that you have just inserted into the ZIP
drive: don't panic! Simply open a SHELL indow and type:

```
        Diskchange ZIPPC:         or
        Diskchange ZIPMAC:
```

It's even possible that you have to type this more than one time..

1.7   Using an Hisoft Squirrel card

Using a ZIP with a Squirrel SCSI card:
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It seems that there are a few people that have problems with the Squirrel
SCSI card from Hisoft.

The first thing to understand is that you can't boot directly from a ZIP
disk with the old Squirrel card (it seems that the new Surf Squirrel
support autobooting from a SCSI unit).

Next thing to verify is that you don't have an expansion card in your A1200
that conflits with the PCMCIA port: if you have more than 4MB RAM in your
trapdoor expansion and the Squirrel card isn't recognised, try leaving only
4MB of fast ram on your trapdoor card and then rebooting. If it solves the

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problem, then you have two choices: leave only 4MB in your memory card, or
buy a different memory card!
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1.8 Formatting your first Amiga ZIP disk

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Formatting your first Amiga ZIP disk:
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Here is an explanation on how to format a ZIP disk with your Amiga using
the HDToolBox program: (you can find HDToolBox in the Tools drawer)

1. boot your AMIGA with a ZIP disk already inserted into the ZIP drive,
    or insert a disk before starting HDToolBox;

2. start HDToolBox;

3. select the SCSI address where you have connected the ZIP drive
   (you have only two choices: 5 or 6)

4. Press the "Change Drive Type" button, then select the "Define New..."
    option;

5. Press the "Read Configuration" button, HDToolbox will read all the
    necessary informations directly from the ZIP drive;

6. Press "OK", then "OK" another time:  you have just defined a new disk
    type for the ZIP drive.  The next time you have to format a ZIP disk you
    can skip directly to the next phase, you don't have to redefine a new
    Drive Type.

7. From here you can use the ZIP disk just like an hard disk:  you can
    create/erase new partitions with the "Partition Drive" option, you can
    make a ZIP disk autobooting, etc.

8. when you have finished partitioning the disk, press the "Save Changes to
    Drive" button to save the configuration to the ZIP disk.

9. return to AmigaOS and format the new disk; you can make a "FAST FORMAT"
    or, if you want to verify the whole disk, make a format with VERIFY ON.
    (if you have problems ith the Workbench format, ie you can't select the
    ZIP drive from the device's list, open a SHELL and format the disk
    with the CLI _Format_ command)
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1.9 Using Ami-FileSafe with a ZIP disk

Using Ami-FileSafe with a ZIP disk:
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If you have bought the Ami-FileSave filesystem, it's a good idea trying it
with a ZIP disk.

After formatting an AFS ZIP disk, you will have 88MB of free storage (a
normal FFS ZIP disk has 95MB free space).
Obviously, the speed of the AFS ZIP disk will depend from your SCSI
controller, but the gain will be in the 200-500KB/S range.

If your SCSI controller support RDB that aren't in OFS or FFS format, you
can boot directly from an AFS ZIP disk, otherwise you have to use a
mountlist to mount the AFS formatted partition.

1.10   Strange problems?

Strange problems?
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Recently I've changed my old Amiga 2000 with a A3000 model and so my ZIP
drive is now connected to a A2091 SCSI controller (before I had a SUPRA
WordSync controller).

The first time I've used a ZIP disk with my new A3000, I noticed that
reading/writing to it was a lot slower than with my old controller:
I was reading/writing the ZIP disk with a 150/200KB transfer rate!!

After a lot of time and contless efforts, I finally found a solution:

when you format a new ZIP disk using HDToolBox (or an equivalent program),
you can find a "Supports reselection" button in the "Change Drive Type" ->
"Define New..." option, if you leave this option ON, then your ZIP disk
will be very very slow when reading/writing; if you turn _OFF_ this option
you'll obtain a 800-900KB transfer rate!!

So, __TURN OFF__ THE "Supports reselection" OPTION!!!!

I don't know if this problem is valid only for the A3000 SCSI controller,
but if you have a ZIP drive that is very slow, then try this solution!

If you have a lot of read/write errors when using your ZIP drive, try
changing the SCSI cable between the ZIP and the SCSI controller.

1.11 Other usefull (?) ZIP stuff

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Other usefull (?) ZIP stuff/tips:
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- To speedup a bit your ZIP drive, you can add more buffers to it with the
   AddBuffers (directory C:) SHELL command.  A good value is 150-200
   buffers.  If you use a mountlist to mount a ZIP disk, you can directly
   change there the buffers number.

- If you have problems formatting the Tools disk that came with your Zip
   drive, it's because it's password protected from writing/formatting.
   You can unlock it with the password:

                  APlaceForYourStuff
                  or
                  APlaceForMyStuff

- To mount/unmount a ZIP partition you can use the very usefull SCSIMounter
   utility: aminet/disk/misc/SCSIMounter203.lha

- You can find a lot of beutiful disk icons for the ZIP disks on Aminet:
   simply search the Aminet INDEX file with a "ZIP" keyword.
   (Exe: KipsZip.lha, MWBZipIcon.lha, ZIP-Icons.lha)

- There are at least 2 commercial packages for the Iomega ZIP drives, one
   from Hisoft and other from ???  (sorry, but I don't remember the other
   firm name;-).
   With these you can easily format, eject, lock, unlock, password protect
   a ZIP disk.

- If you don't want to pay for a commercial product, you can just download
   the ZipTool utility from Aminet, programmed by Oliver Hitz.
   With it you can lock, unlock, password protect and eject a ZIP disk.

- If you still have problems with a PC formatted ZIP disk, try the excellent
   utility MountDos100.lha, Aminet directory disk/misc.
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1.12 Who wrote all this?

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Who wrote all this?
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You can send all the money that you want, email messages, cakes,
Amiga hardware, postcards, Amiga software, keyfiles, new or used cars,
airplane tickets, winning lottery tickets, Playboy subscriptions, ZIP
disks, AMINET CDs, SIMM modules:
```

```
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        SWITZERLAND

        email:   cacio@tilink.ch
        fidonet: 2:301/231.20
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1.13 HISTORY

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History:
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1.0 First release. (Mountlists only)

1.1 Added a more usefull README file.

1.2 Now this manual is in AmigaGuide format.
    More misc ZIP stuff.
    Added a few Squirrel tips.
    Solution added for a specific A3000 problem.
    I've changed my email address.
```