

man

COLLABORATORS

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

NUMBER	DATE	DESCRIPTION	NAME

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Chapter 1

man

1.1 Table of contents

The manual browser 1.1 (11.11.94)
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 Short description

Legal
 Some stuff that must be said

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 So, how do you use it?

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1.2 Introduction to the manual browser

What does this program do? Well, it is something like an AmigaGuide-based

directory browser. You start at a directory, and the browser will display its contents. Every directory and every file will be a button. Click on a directory-button to enter that directory; click on a file-button to view the file.

With this program, you can put all your online documentation into a nicely organized directory structure for easy viewing. It is intended to be an "xman" type program for the Amiga.

1.3 Legal stuff

This program is free software; you can redistribute it and/or modify it under the terms of the GNU General Public License as published by the Free Software Foundation; either version 2 of the License, or (at your option) any later version.

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You should have received a copy of the GNU General Public License along with this program; if not, write to the Free Software Foundation, Inc., 675 Mass Ave, Cambridge, MA 02139, USA.

1.4 How to contact the author

If you want to contact me for any reason, for example bugs, suggestions, gifts or praise -:), here is my address:

Christian Stieber
Konradstraße 41
D-85055 Ingolstadt
(Germany)

Mail sent to this address should reach me in any case, although I may not actually live there. It might take a while for the mail to reach me.

I do not have a permanent EMail address (yet?).

Currently (1994) I'm a student, and can be reached at the following address:

Christian Stieber
Seitzstraße 6, Zi. 306
D-80538 München
(Germany)

EMail: Stieber@Informatik.TU-Muenchen.de

It's probably not a good idea to send postal mail to my student-address; if I'm not there anymore people might just throw the mail away --- you never

know.

I will answer all EMail and all the mail that has sufficient return postage included (of course, if you send some \$\$, you don't have to include extra return postage -:)). If you tell me your EMail address, I'll use it to answer your mail if I can.

I'm planning to get a modem and some connection to the internet when I leave university, so EMail hopefully won't be a problem.

1.5 Known problems

Currently requires AmigaOS 3.0 or later. I have no idea why: if compiled for V37 and run it with AmigaOS 2.x, it doesn't work. No error. Maybe it's a problem with V34 amigaguide.library.

If you enter a directory, take out the disk, click on "Retrace" and cancel the requester, you'll be stuck. You'll see the error message, but there won't be any buttons --- all you can do is close the window.

1.6 Configuration file

When you start the program, it will look for a configuration file. The following files will be read, in the order listed:

```
PROGDIR:ManualBrowser.config
S:ManualBrowser.config
ENV:ManualBrowser.config
```

Configuration files assign viewers to patterns:

```
PATTERN/A,ACTION/A/F
```

"PATTERN" is a standard AmigaDOS filename pattern; note that it will only be applied to the filename portion. The directory portion is ignored. See your AmigaDOS manual for a description of AmigaDOS-patterns.

"ACTION" is a command that can be put into the AmigaGuide LINK-command.

Example:

```
#!.dvi SYSTEM "TeX:bin/ShowDVI %f"
```

tells the browser that #!.dvi files should be displayed using TeX:bin/ShowDVI.

The following %-commands may be used:

```
%f filename
%p pathname
%F filename without extension
```

Additionally, there are two special commands:

```
IGNORE do not display these files (no button will be created)
DEFAULT use the default action
```

If a filename matches two or more patterns, the last pattern read will be used.

Sample configuration file:

```
#?.info          IGNORE
.#?             IGNORE
#?.dvi          SYSTEM "TeX:bin/ShowDVI %f"
#?.(doc|dok|txt) SYSTEM "Work:Specials/Most %f"
```

Also, whenever a directory is entered ManualBrowser looks for a file called ".Config". If such a file is found, it will be read. This file only covers the directory it is stored in.

You will probably use this feature to assign viewers to a single file that you don't want to mention in your global ManualBrowser.config.

1.7 The .Message-files

Whenever a directory is read, the program looks for a file called ".Message". If such a file is found, its contents will be displayed before the directory contents.

This can be used to display a headline or a description of the directory, very much like the ".msg" files on ftp-servers.

1.8 Some things that should be done

- make ".Config" files cover a directory tree?
- something like a global table of contents (how?)

1.9 Usage information

The program may be started from the Shell or from Workbench. Currently there is only one argument/tooltype:

```
MANUALDIR=MANDIR=DIR: Your manual-directory. Defaults to "man:".
```

1.10 History information

```
1.0 (06.09.94)    First public release
1.1 (11.11.94)    · Added ".Config" feature (see
                  Config-files
```

)

- Removed some error messages
 - Some small changes to the code
 - Distribution is checksummed
-