

# **YAM**

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	<i>TITLE :</i> YAM		
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**REVISION HISTORY**

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# Chapter 1

## YAM

### 1.1 YAM - English documentation

```
=====
Y A M      (Yet Another Mailer)   Version 1.0
=====
```

© 1996 by Marcel Beck

Introduction	- Features of YAM
Requirements	- What you need to use YAM
Registering	- How to register YAM
Copyright	- Disclaimer
Installation	- How to install YAM
Quick Introduction	- 5 Minutes to success
Folders	- Receive, copy, send, archive messages
Configuration	- How to configure YAM
Adressbook	- Save frequently used addresses
Write	- How to write mails
Read	- Reading messages
ARexx Interface	- Control YAM from other programs
Technical	- How YAM manages the messages
History	- The history of YAM
Future	- Planned enhancements
Author	- How do I contact the author
Credits	- Who has participated
YAM in WWW	- The YAM home page in the World Wide Web

### 1.2 Introduction

YAM (abbreviation for 'Yet Another Mailer') is a combined Mailer/POP/SMTP client for the Amiga. I programmed it, because no other program satisfied

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100% and I wanted to refresh my knowledge in programming.

Features of YAM:

- Basic functions: read, write, delete, reply and forward mail
- Four folders for incoming, outgoing, sent and archived mail
- Address book for frequently used addresses
- Built-in POP3 client to check for mail on startup, on demand or at regular time intervals
- Write or reply your messages offline and send them to the mail server using the built-in SMTP client
- Add the sender of mail to the addressbook with a simple mouseclick
- Built-in UU-encoder/decoder to send and receive binary files
- The ARexx port allows other programs (e.g. AMosaic) to control YAM
- YAM is a commodity: it waits in the background as an icon and pops up when a hotkey is pressed
- The graphical user interface of YAM is programmed with MUI and is accordingly font-sensitive; the windows are freely sizeable
- YAM runs either on the Workbench screen or on any other custom screen
- Context related online help through help bubbles and AmigaGuide
- Supported languages: German and English
- Easy installation with the Commodore-Installer

## 1.3 Requirements

HARDWARE REQUIREMENTS

- Amiga Computer with a minimum of 1 MB Ram

NEEDED SOFTWARE

- Kickstart 2.0/Workbench 2.0 or higher for the English version
- Kickstart 2.0/Workbench 2.1 or higher for the German version
- MUI 3.1 or higher
- AmiTCP 2.3 or higher

## 1.4 Registering

REGISTERING

YAM is so called 'mailware'; that means, if you use YAM periodically, you must send me a message with your name and your email-address. A few days later you'll get your personal registration code by email. On startup, the unregistered version of YAM displays a requester which enables you to register online. In response I'll send you a registration code to put into the configuration. So you are a registered user of YAM and become notificated for updates.

## 1.5 Copyright

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## COPYRIGHT

The copyright for this software is by Marcel Beck. This archive may only be distributed in unmodified form. In particular the deletion of the documentation and this copyright-note is not allowed.

## DISTRIBUTION

This software is freely distributable. The distribution is permitted under the following conditions:

- All associated files included with the distribution archive are to remain intact and unaltered.
- The distribution over BBS's, Internet, software libraries like the ones from Fred Fish or Aminet CD-ROM's and similar electronic channels is granted.
- For disc-magazines and service providers, who rise additional costs for the file transfer, the permission of the program author is required.

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## RETURN SERVICE

This software is free to test for 30 days without any obligation. After that time you must register for further use of this software.

## 1.6 MUI

MUI - MagicUserInterface

(c) Copyright 1993/94 by Stefan Stuntz

MUI is a system to generate and maintain graphical user interfaces. With the aid of a preferences program, the user of an application has the ability to customize the outfit according to his personal taste.

MUI is distributed as shareware. To obtain a complete package containing lots of examples and more information about registration please look for a file called "muiXXusr.lha" (XX means the latest version number) on your local bulletin boards or on public domain disks.

If you want to register directly, feel free to send

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DM 30.- or US\$ 20.-

to

Stefan Stuntz  
Eduard-Spranger-Straße 7  
80935 München  
GERMANY

## 1.7 Installation

### INSTALLATION USING THE COMMODORE-INSTALLER

Open the directory Install, doubleclick on the icon English and follow the instructions of the Installer.

### MANUAL INSTALLATION

If you don't own the Installer from AmiTech or you don't want to use it follow this instructions:

- Create a directory for YAM on the harddisk. A good place is for example the directory AmiTCP.
- Copy the files YAM, YAM\_english.guide and the directories Icons and Rexx in this directory. Rename the guide to YAM.guide.
- Create an assignment YAM: to your YAM-directory in s:user-startup, e.g. Assign YAM: Work:AmiTCP/YAM.
- Reboot your computer.

## 1.8 QUICK INTRODUCTION

### Quick Introduction

This chapter gives you a step by step introduction of the principal operation of YAM. We assume that YAM is already installed on your system.

1. Get the following information from your internet provider:
    - Your email address
    - The internet address of your mail server (also called POP3- or SMTP-server)
    - The password to log into mail serverAs an example we create a "fictitious" user named Bill Clinton. His email address is clinton@whitehouse.gov, the address of his mailserver is mail.whitehouse.gov and his password is tnediserP :-)
  2. Start YAM with doubleclick on it's icon. A copyright requester appears; leave it with a click on [Okay]. Now you should see the main window including four message boxes and two rows of buttons.
-

3. First we must configure the program. Select the item Configuration in the menu Settings. In the register card Transfer enter the required specifications for the mail transfer. In our example this are:

```
Mail server  mail.whitehouse.gov
Domain       whitehouse.gov
UserID       clinton
Real name    Bill Clinton
Password     tnediserP
```

4. YAM allows you to add a free definable text to all your letters. Choose now the register card Message and select the option Use signature. Start the editor with a click on [Edit signature] and enter the desired signature, e.g.

```
Yours sincerely,
  Billy
```

Save the text and quit the editor (for ED this works with Esc x Return).

5. Save the settings with a click on [Save]. YAM is now ready and you are able to write your first message.
  6. Click on [Write]. In the newly opened window click [New] to select the string-gadget below the list and enter the recipient's email-address, in our example this is clinton@whitehouse.gov followed by Return. In the string-gadget Subject you should specify the topic of your message in a few words. Now click on [Edit] and enter the actual message into the text editor.
  7. Since either AmiTCP isn't up yet or you're not yet connected, click on [To queue]. This saves the new message in the folder "Outgoing" and refrains from immediate sending in contrary to [Send].
  8. Now start AmiTCP and build up a connection to your Internet provider. Change to the folder "Outgoing" and send your mail with a click on [Send all].  
In the small transfer window you may watch how YAM logs in and sends the mail to the mail server.
  9. As you may have noticed your message has disappeared from the folder "Outgoing". But don't panic; it just moved to the folder "Sent". The envelope in the list now has a postage stamp which means the message was successfully sent.
  10. Doubleclicking on the message opens the read window. You should recognize your own text. The white lines were created by YAM and contain necessary information for the mail transfer.
  11. Since you wrote this message to yourself, it's now time to look out for new messages sent to you. Click the read window into the background or close it and click on [Get mail].
  12. The now familiar transfer window appears and you can observe how YAM gets your mail from the mail server. If all goes well a requester opens up with the notice that new mail has arrived. You will find the new
-

mail in the folder "Incoming".

If you made it so far without difficulties you know now the essential functions of YAM. You'll find further explanations in the following chapters.

## 1.9 folders

### FOLDERS

In the main window of YAM you have four folders:

Incoming: This box contains all mail addressed to you.

Outgoing: This box contains all mail which you wrote, but hasn't been sent.

Sent : This box contains all successfully sent mail.

Archive : This box is for archiving mail which is important for you.

The list shows the mail in the active folders. In the first row you see the status of the message:

New mail	closed envelope from back with the letter N
Unread mail	closed envelope from back
Read mail	opened envelope
Replied mail	opened envelope with the letter R
Forwarded mail	opened envelope with the letter F
Unsent mail	envelope without postage stamp
Sent mail	envelope with postage stamp
Mail with sending error	teared envelope

The second row contains, depending on the folder, either the sender or the receiver of the message. The third row contains the subject and the fourth row the receiving or manufacturing date of the mail.

A doubleclick on a entry in the list opens the read window and shows the contents of the mail.

### FUNCTIONS

Different actions can be started with the two rows of buttons. Normally they affect the present message.

[Read] Loads the message into the read window.

[Write] Opens the write window where you write your text.

[Delete] The message is definitely erased.

[Get mail] Tries to connect you to your mail server, checks for new mail and loads it into the folder "Incoming".

[Reply] To answer a letter addressed to you. Subject and receiver are automatically filled in and the original text is

mentioned.

[Forward]	To redirect a letter to another receiver. Subject and message text are automatically taken over.
[Archive]	The message gets moved from "Incoming" to "Archived".
[Get address]	The sender's address of the active message is filed in your address book
[Edit]	Gives you the possibility to edit a message which is already in the send-off mode. Please don't modify the mail header if you're not familiar with the keywords.
[Send]	Builds a connection to your mail server and sends off the selected message.
[Send all]	Sends off all messages in "Outgoing".
[Send again]	Sends off an already sent message again.

#### MENUS IN THE MAIN WINDOW

Project/About	Shows Copyright information and offers you the possibility of an Online-Registration.
Project/Hide	Switches the program into the iconified mode. The icon shows the status of the incoming mail (empty, old, new). The regular mail check and the ARexx-interface stay active. The program switches itself into iconified mode, when you start it from shell with the option HIDE.
Project/Quit	Ends YAM.
Settings/Address Book	Enables you to edit entries in the address book.
Settings/Configuration	Opens the configuration window.
Settings/MUI	Starts the MUI preferences, and enables you to arrange the graphic interface of YAM as desired.

## 1.10 Configuration

#### CONFIGURATION

These program options are split into three folders. The button [Save] saves the configurations in ENVARC:, so they'll survive a restart of the computer. Settings saved with [Use] are stored in ENV: and get lost at the next reset.

TRANSFER - necessary details for the mail transfer

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Mail server	The Internet address which you use to send and receive mail. This server, usually a computer from your internet provider, must be able to handle SMTP (sending) and POP3 (receiving) protocols.
Domain	Host/Domain part of your email-address, i.e. the text behind @.
UserID	The username necessary to login at the mail server and also the first part of your email-address (before @).
Real name	Your real firstname and surname. Make sure this is filled in properly. The Online-Registration uses this field to calculate the registration code.
Password	The password you use to log into the mail server (necessary to receive messages).
Check for mail every x Minutes	YAM will make a connection to your mailserver, according to your chosen interval, and check for new mail.
Get mail on startup	YAM will check for new mail immediately when you start the program. To prevent this function temporarily start YAM from shell with the option NOCHECK.
Delete mail on server	This option erases all messages at the server after reception.
SYSTEM - different setups	
Registration code	Here you must insert the number you got from me after the online registration.
Editor	Choose your own text editor to write your messages. The default editor is the Workbench editor "C:Ed".
Confirm before deletion	In this option selected you must confirm a safetycheck before YAM erases or archives a message.
Sort by	Sorts out the messages in the folders as desired. You choose between date, subject or sender.
MESSAGE - options concerning reading and writing mail	
Use signature	This option automatically adds your signature to every message. It can be changed in the text editor by choosing [Edit signature].
Quote original mail	This option will quote the received text in the answering message. In front of each line of the quoted message stands the char(s) specified in "start with" and a space.
Show mail headers	This option displays all the information contained in the header of a mail shown in Readwindow.

---

#### MENUS IN THE CONFIGURATION WINDOW

Reset to Defaults	Reset all current configurations to the stored default settings in YAM.
Last Saved	Changes the current configuration to the one which was valid while booting.
Restore	Resets all changes since the last [Save] or [Use].

## 1.11 Addressbook

#### ADDRESS BOOK

The address book is a directory for frequently used addresses.

Add	Opens the edit address window to make a new entry.
Edit	You can modify the selected address in the edit address window.
Delete	Erases the selected entry from the directory.
Reload	Loads the address book from the harddisk and reject all unsaved entries.
Save	Saves the address book on the harddisk.

## 1.12 Edit address

#### ADDRESS INPUT

A single entry from the address book can be edited in this window.

Real Name	First- and surname of receiver.
Email address	Internet address of receiver (i.e. mbeck@access.ch).
[Okay]	Accepts changes.
[Cancel]	Reject changes.

## 1.13 Write

#### WRITE MESSAGES

This window is used to write a new message, for answering mail or to forward existing mail.

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Mail to	This list contains email-addresses of all persons who should get this message. [New] unlocks the string gadget so a new address can be typed in. The switch on the right of the string gadget enables you to fetch a address from the address book. [Remove] removes the selected address. [Clear] erases the complete list of receivers.
Subject	The topic of the message. Answered mail is preceeded by "Re:", forwarded mail extended with "(fwd)".
Attach file	In case a filename is listed, this file will be attached uuencoded to the message. This is a means to transmit binary files like archives, pictures e.t.c. through email. The filename can also be entered through the filerequester (button, right from textfield) or by dropping the icon over the textgadget.
[Edit]	Starts the text editor to write the message.
[To queue]	Prepares the message for transmission, copies it into "Outgoing".
[Send]	Prepares the message for transmission, copies it into "Outgoing" and tries to send it out through your mail server.
[Cancel]	In case you decide differently... All entries in this window will be lost.

## 1.14 Read

### READ MESSAGES

If you doubleclick a message in the main window or choose the button [Read] the topical message will be displayed in the read window. Header information, if switched on, shows in white, quotes in bold print.

[Previous]	Displays the message on top of the topical message in the mailbox.
[Next]	Displays the message below the topical message in the mailbox.
[Question]	Displays the message which is answered in the topical message.
[Answer]	Displays the mail in which the topical message is answered. [Question] and [Answer] are used to trace a dialog between you and someone else independent to all other mail in the mailfolders.
[Reply]	With this button a message addressed to you can be answered. Subject and receiver are automatically filled in and the original text is quoted.
[Detach]	A binary file attached to the topical message can be

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decoded into any directory of your choice.

[Export] Saves the topical message as ASCII text under any filename you choose.

[Print] Transfers the topical message to the printer.

#### MENUS IN THE READ WINDOW

Show mail header Switches the header information on or off. This setting will be lost when you quit YAM, unlike the option in the configuration window.

## 1.15 ARexx Interface

#### AREXX INTERFACE

YAM includes an ARexx interface which allows programs to use functions of YAM. The portname of this interface is 'YAM'.

#### COMMAND-REFERENCE

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<u>Get new mail</u>		
mailcheck		Corresponds to the button [Get mail]. RESULT contains the number of new messages or -1 if the connection to the mail server failed.

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<u>Edit messages</u>		
setfolder	NUM/N/A	Change the active folder. The value of NUM must be in range of 0 (Incoming) to 3 (Archived).
setmail	NUM/N/A	Appoints the active message in the active folder. The value of NUM must be in the range of 0 to (number of entrys-1).
getfolderinfo	TYP/A	Gives information about the active folder in the variable RESULT. TYP is one of the following keywords: NUM(BER) number (0=Incoming,1=Outgoing,etc.) NAM(E) name of the directory MAX number of messages
getmailinfo	TYP/A	Gives information about the selected message in the variable RESULT. TYP is one of the following keywords: ACT(IVE) number (0=first in folder) STA(TUS) status of mail (1 char) FRO(M) sender TO primary receiver SUB(JECT) subject FIL(E) full path of mailfile

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mailreply	equals the button [Reply].
mailforward	equals the button [Forward].
mailarchive	equals the button [Archive].
maildelete	equals the button [Delete].

---

Compile and send messages

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writemailto	ADDRESS/A/M	One or more email addresses, written into the receiver list through the write window.
writesubject	TEXT/A	Subject of the message.
writeattach	FILE/A	Name of a (binary) file, to uuencode and attach to the message.
writeletter	FILE/A	File with the text for send.
writequeue		equals the button [To queue] in the write window.
writesend		equals the button [Send] in the write window.
mailsend		equals the button [Send] in Outgoing folder.
mailsendall		equals the button [Send all].

## EXAMPLE 1

The following script sends the file RAM:circularletter.txt to all receivers in the addressbook:

```
/* circularletter.rexx */
ADDRESS YAM
IF OPEN('ab','YAM:addressbook','r') THEN DO /* open addressbook and */
  DO WHILE ~EOF('ab') /* scan all entries */
    entry = READLN('ab') /* read one entry */
    IF ~EOF('ab') THEN DO
      PARSE VAR entry email name /* extract emailaddress */
      WriteMailTo email /* appoint receiver */
      'WriteSubject "Important message"' /* subject */
      WriteLetter 'RAM:circularletter.txt' /* file to be sent */
      WriteQueue /* move to Outgoing */
    END
  END
  CALL CLOSE('ab') /* close addressbook */
  MailSendAll /* send all mail */
END
```

## EXAMPLE 2

The following script scans for messages with the subject "YAM Registration" and displays their addresses:

```
/* register.rexx */
OPTIONS RESULTS
ADDRESS YAM
SetFolder 3 /* go to Archive folder */
GetFolderInfo MAX; entrys = RESULT /* get number of mail */
DO i=0 TO entry-1 /* scan all mail */
  SetMail i /* set topical mail */
  GetMailInfo SUBJECT /* ask subject */
```

---

```

IF RESULT = 'YAM Registration' THEN DO      /* criteria accomplished */
  GetMailInfo FROM                          /* ask for sender and      */
  SAY RESULT                                /* display                 */
END
END

```

## 1.16 Technical

### FILE STRUCTURE

The directory YAM: contains the following files and directories:

YAM	The executable.
YAM.info	The program icon.
Icons/	This directory contains three icons which show the status of the incoming mail in iconified mode: empty.info the mailfolder is empty old.info it contains only "old" mail new.info it contains at least one new mail
Rexx/	ARexx programs for YAM.
.addressbook	The address book.
.signature	The personal signature.
incoming/	The folder "Incoming".
outgoing/	The folder "Outgoing".
sent/	The folder "Sent".
archive/	The folder "Archived". Each message is a file of its own, The filename is put together from the daynumber since the 1.1.1978 and a increasing number for the current day. The status of the mail is saved in the filecomment.

## 1.17 History

### YAM HISTORY

Version 1.0 (20-Feb-96)

- First public Aminet release

## 1.18 The Future

### THE FUTURE OF YAM

The users of YAM will decide about it's future. But nevertheless, here are some of my proposals:

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- built-in MIME-Support
- multiple folders for archived mail
- usergroups for the sending of circular letters

## 1.19 Author

If you have suggestions, questions, critics, bug reports etc. write to:

Internet: mbeck@access.ch  
Fidonet: 2:301/707.14  
Aminet: 44:8010/101.14 (only in Switzerland)

or via snail mail:

Marcel Beck  
Hammerstrasse 4  
4414 Füllinsdorf  
Switzerland

## 1.20 Credits

The following people also deserve to be acknowledged:

Beta-Testing	Richard Marti, Daniel Beck
English documentation	Richard Marti, Bernhard Freiburghaus
Program- and Appicons	Richard Marti
MagicUserInterface	Stefan Stuntz

## 1.21 YAM in WWW

For the latest information about YAM I installed a home page in the World Wide Web. It is available in German and English language.

<http://www.access.ch/whoiswho/mbeck.html>

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