

Hardware Projects Galore!

Craig Daines

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COLLABORATORS

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WRITTEN BY	Craig Daines	August 24, 2024	

REVISION HISTORY

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Contents

1	Hardware Projects Galore!	1
1.1	Hardware Projects Galore V1.5	1
1.2	Opening Up Your Amiga 500/500+	3
1.3	help	3
1.4	Available Projects...	4
1.5	What is this?	5
1.6	giftware	6
1.7	author	6
1.8	Soldering Tips	7
1.9	Disclaimer & Liscence Agreement	8
1.10	Build a 4 Player Adapter	8
1.11	4 Way IDE Splitter for A1200/A4000	8
1.12	Build Your Own A1200 Tower System	8
1.13	How To Build an A4000!	9
1.14	Add an Extra Hard disk to your A4000/030!	9
1.15	Adding a 5/14" Disk Drive For Your Amiga	9
1.16	Build an Ami-Card Hardware Copying Dongle	9
1.17	Amiga Accelerator for A500	10
1.18	Amiga Interface for Macintosh 800KB Disk Drive	10
1.19	Build your own Amiga Scart Lead	10
1.20	Fitting a 486 CPU Cooler To Your Apollo 1240/25	10
1.21	Build an Amstrad Monitor to Amiga Cable	10
1.22	Build a VGA Multisync Adapter	11
1.23	Audio Amplifier For Your Amiga	11
1.24	Sound Sampler For Any Amiga	11
1.25	CD32 Connection Hacks	11
1.26	A64 Emulator Lead For Use With A64	11
1.27	Build Your Own CDDA Mixer	11
1.28	Connecting an IDE CD-ROM to Amiga 600/A1200	12
1.29	Upgrading an HST Only Modem To Dual Standard	12

1.30 LED Box	12
1.31 Light Sensor	12
1.32 Midi Interface	12
1.33 MTX Transmitter	13
1.34 Null Modem Cable	13
1.35 Overclocking Accelerators	13
1.36 Parnet Help	13
1.37 Pause Switch for Amiga 500	13
1.38 Use PC Joysticks With Amiga!	14
1.39 Rapid Autofire For Joysticks That Don't Have an Autofire!	14
1.40 Connecting up the Reset Switch for your A1200T	14
1.41 Rom Switcher For Your A500/A2000	14
1.42 Sega Joypad Conversion	14
1.43 Sound Enhancer	14
1.44 Sticky Box Mouse/Joystick Switcher	15
1.45 Superbase Hardware Dongle (For Use With Superbase Software)	15
1.46 Track Display (For Your Diskdrive)	15
1.47 Updating Your Amiga 500	15
1.48 Video Digitizer For Any Amiga	15
1.49 Bootblock Virus Detector For Your Amiga	15
1.50 Voltage Controller	16
1.51 ZXAM New Interface	16

Chapter 1

Hardware Projects Galore!

1.1 Hardware Projects Galore V1.5

Hardware Projects Galore - Exclusively written for...

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MPPPPM#####
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      J#####
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      J#####
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      #####
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#####      ##      ##      1      #      0      JL      ##L      ##P      7#F ←
      #####
#####      J##      ##      1      K      J      #      J      J###L      ##'      d#Q ←
      0###
#####L      J##      0#      1      #      J#      d      J###      J##      ### ←
      J###
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      J###
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          ###
###          JP      J#      0      7P      #L      70#M      7E  ←
          ###
##f          F      J#      #      dL      #Q                      0L  ←
          ###
##~          F      d#      a#      0L      ##                      #  ←
          0##
#@          aaaa          0#      0#      #      ##                      E      ,aaaaa  ←
          0##
#L          0####L          0#L      ##      #      ###          j      J      j#####  ←
          J##
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          ##
E          J#####Q          ##L      J##      J#      J####w          d#          #####  ←
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#####&wwwd  ←
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#####

#####F J#" #F  0 0E 0  ←
      F F  J##
##### aJK_,7 _,7 0L #  ←
      a ,J##
##### ## #17 #F7 ]  ←
      #] 0 0###
##### _3 #FJ  1J]|  ←
      FJL0 0###
##### ## # 0 a 1J |J  ←
      0 ####
##### ## ' # # LJ FT  ←
      _ 7 ####
#####QJ##Q_W&JQ_L0_LI_  ←
      #_J_####

```

© 1998 By Craig Daines

```

.-----
|      Hardware Projects Galore (version 1.5)      |
|-----|
|      - Giftware evaluation copy -                |
|-----|
|      © Craig Daines 1998 - All rights reserved.  |
|-----'

```

```

.-----
|      What is this ?!                             |
|      Giftware                                     |
|      How to contact the author                   |
|      Soldering Tips                             |
|      Opening Up Your A500/A500+                 |
|      List Available Projects..                   |
|      Disclaimer & Liscence                       |
|-----'

```

1.2 Opening Up Your Amiga 500/500+

OPENING UP YOUR AMIGA 500/500+

Some projects contained on this disk will require you to strip your Amiga down to the motherboard. If you have an Amiga 1500, 2000 or 3000 this is a very simple matter and consists of removing four or five screws and opening the case. On the A500 and A500+ much more fun is to be had:

1. Disconnect everything, and I mean everything. Ensure the disk drive is empty.
2. Place the Amiga face down on a towel, on a large well-lit table.
3. Notice the position of the fixing screws around the perimeter of the plastic casing. There is another screw under the silver warranty sticker at the front.
4. If your A500/A500+ is still under warranty, say a fond farewell, as it's about to go.
5. Depending on the type of fixing screw used, you will either need a screwdriver or a small Allen key. A pair of long-nosed pliers will usually do instead of the Allen key.
6. When all screws have been removed, carefully turn the Amiga over and lift the casing. With the keyboard closest to you, lift from the left-hand side first.
7. Look inside at lots of tin sheeting acting as radio shielding.
8. Lift the keyboard free by disconnecting the keyboard cable. Also, don't forget to make a note of the cable's orientation.
9. Unfold the little flaps holding the shielding down, and lift the sheet off. Watch out for any sharp edges.
10. That's all their is to it!

Back To Main Menu

Back To Projects Menu

1.3 help

You've just activated help. If you do not no how to navigate through Hardware Projects Galore, I shall give you a brief explanation:

Above you will see five boxes. These are as follows:

```
+-----+ +-----+ +-----+ +-----+ +-----+ +-----+
|Contents| | Index | | Help | | Retrace | | Browse «| | Browse » |
+-----+ +-----+ +-----+ +-----+ +-----+ +-----+
```


Explanation of above boxes:

Clicking Contents will return you to the main contents page.

Clicking Help will bring up this help page.

Clicking Retrace will take you back one page. Keep clicking Retrace to get to a page

Clicking Browse < will take you through the database backwards one page at a time. This is handy to browse through the database at your own lesure.

Clicking Browse > will take you through the database forward one page at a time. Again, this is useful to browse through the database at your own lesure.

Note: I have provided links in the texts so you can more easily view the circuit schematics for the various projects, so for instance, whilst you are reading the assembly instructions for a particular project, you will also see a button which you can click on which will bring up the circuit schematic for that particular project.

1.4 Available Projects...

How to build an...

4 Player Adapter etc.	..... For use with games such as Dynablasters, ←
4 Way IDE Splitter	..... 4 Way IDE interface for A1200/A4000!
A1200 in Tower Case case!	..... Install your Amiga 1200 into a PC tower ←
A1200 To Tower Power Supply A4000!	..... How to rig up to the PSU. Well, sort of.
Add Extra Hardisk to 4000/030	..... Self explanatory.
Adding a 5/14'' Disk Drive with Amiga.	..... How to modify a 5/14'' disk drive for use ←
Ami-Card Hardware Copying Dongle	..... As it says!
Amiga Accelerator for A500	..... Accelerate your ancient A500!
Amiga To Macintosh disk drive Amiga.	..... Connect 800KB Apple Mac diskdrive to your ←
Amiga Scart Lead cable.	..... Connect up your Amiga to a TV via a scart ←
Amstrad Monitor To Amiga Lead Amiga.	..... Connect your old Amstrad Monitor to your ←
Apollo 1240 CPU Cooler 1240 Card.	..... How to fit a 486 CPU Cooler to Apollo ←
Audio Amplifier amplifier.	..... Amplify your Amiga audio via this audio ←
Audio Sampler	..... A DIY soundsampler for budding musicians!
C64 Emulator Lead for A64 with A64 Emulator.	..... Connect up your C64 diskdrive for use ←
CD32 Connection Hacks keyboard!	..... Network CD32 to your Amiga and connect a ←
CDDA Mixer For Your CD-ROM Drive	..... Mixes and boosts Amiga and CDDA audio.
Connect an IDE CD ROM A600/A1200.	..... Details how to connect a CD-ROM drive to ←

HST Only Modem To Dual Standard Dual Standard	..... Details how to modify an HST modem to	↔
LED Box modem is in use.	..... Inform people in your household that	↔
LED Solution For A1200 Tower .	..... Rig up the FDD/HD/PWR LEDs on your A1200T	↔
Light Sensor Amiga!	..... Make a light activated switch for your	↔
Midi Cables	..... How to build your own!	
Midi Interface interface.	..... Connect up that synthesizer via this midi	↔
MTX Transmitter in the UK).	..... Build a bugging device (not liscenceble	↔
Null Modem Cable .	..... Link two Amiga to play head-to-head games	↔
Overclocking Accelerators speed.	..... Overclock your accelerator for extra	↔
Parnet Cable	..... Lets you link two Amiga's together.	
Pause Switch For A500/500+	..... Footswitch which 'pauses' your Amiga 500!	
PC Joystick To Amiga Interface !	..... Got a PC Joystick? Then build this widget	↔
Rapid Fire (autofire for joy) switch?	..... Your joystick don't have an autofire	↔
Reset Switch for A1200 Tower reset switch on tower.	..... Enables you to 'reset' your Amiga by	↔
Rom Switcher For Your A500/A2000 choice of O.S.	..... Switch between Kickstart Roms for a	↔
Sega Joypad Conversion included!	..... Use Sega Joypad with Amiga. Source code	↔
Sound Enhancer Project	..... Enhances your Amiga's audio!	
Sticky Box (Auto switcher) more unplugging).	..... Switches between joystick and mouse (no	↔
Superbase Hardware Dongle	..... For use with Superbase software.	
Track Display (for ext. drive) tracks.	..... Plugs into ext. disk drive and displays	↔
Updating your A500	..... Updating your prehistoric Amiga 500.	
VGA Multisync Adapter VGA monitor.	..... Allows you to display all screenmodes on	↔
Video Digitizer Camcorder.	..... Allows you to grab pictures from TV/VCR/	↔
Virus Detector	..... Virus beeper for bootblock viruses.	
Voltage Controller	..... Control various hardware from your Amiga!	
ZXAM Tape Interface Spectrum Emulator.	..... New improved tape interface for ZXAM	↔

Number of current projects in database: 44

1.5 What is this?

Welcome to Hardware Projects Galore! This is my latest Public Domain contribution which details how you can build your own Hardware for your Amiga. I have not seen any similar Amigaguide type programs such as this in the public domain, so I decided to write my own and share it with the Amiga community.

These projects vary in complexity. Some even a novice could build, others are more complex. It will help if you have some prior knowledge in electronics.

I wish to add further hardware projects! If you've designed and built something exciting for your Amiga, please feel free to drop me a line, since I wish to add further hardware projects to this program. I shall be sending future revisions for inclusion on Amiga Format's cover CD-ROM's.

This program is exclusively written for the Amiga Format CD-ROM on an:
Eyeteck EZ-Tower A1200T
Apollo 1240/25Mhz 18 meg
Squirrel SCSI controller
4 Speed CD-ROM
Iomega Zip

Using the following pieces of software:

Cygnus Ed
Transwrite Jr
Personal Paint 6.4
CLI Master

1.6 giftware

I have released this program under the Public Domain Giftware concept. This means:

If you like my program you must either send me a postcard or some more hardware projects that I can add to my program.

In doing this, you are supporting my program, thus, making future versions possible. It is not much to ask is it?

Do you realize that most programmers writing software for the Amiga under the Shareware/Giftware scheme have abdonded releasing future versions of their programs? Why? - Because most people cannot even be bothered to send them a postcard, let alone a Shareware fee which is immoral.

SO REMEBER, BY SUPPORTING PROGRAMMERS YOU ARE SUPPORTING THE AMIGA!

1.7 author

If you have suggestions, comments, new Amiga-related hardware projects, please feel free to drop me a line:

Craig Daines
21 Canal Road
Yapton
Near Arundel
West Sussex
BN18 OHD
ENGLAND

1.8 Soldering Tips

Tips On Soldering

Soldering isn't difficult - soldering neatly and quickly just takes a little practice. The trick is to ensure that the parts you are soldering are well connected before you start. For a switch, wrap the wire around the contact. For a component on veroboard, bend the wire after it has come through the hole.

- * When soldering be as quick as you can. Heat can damage components, so apply the iron for as short a time as possible.
- * Use as little solder as possible. The more solder you use, the more chance of it spreading all over your veroboard and short-circuiting. Tip: Use extra-fine solder.
- * Use IC sockets for your chips. They costs pennies and can save an absolute fortune in the long-run.
- * Use a heatsink when soldering critical components (transistors, diodes, etc). Use long-nosed pliers to grip the wire being soldered to absorb excess heat from the iron.
- * Don't settle for a joint that isn't bright and shiny. It could be a 'dry joint' which will not conduct electricity very well and could cause all sorts of problems.
- * Clean the bit after every joint, applying a little solder (wetting the bit) just before the next.
- * Tin any wires before soldering them by allowing a small amount of solder to flow over the twisted wires.

What You Will Need To Build The Projects Featured On This Disk

- * A mains operated 15w soldering iron with a fine bit (these cost between £15 and £20 quid).
 - * Some solder
 - * Wire cutters
 - * Pliers
 - * Helping Hands (these aren't essential but can help) These are a weighted collection of crocodile clips and a magnifying glass to hold your components while your soldering.
 - * Multi-meter - These are essential for fault finding and you can buy a cheap one for about 15 quid.
 - * Set of screwdrivers - A bit obvious really. Jewellers's screwdrivers are excellent for these projects as even the smallest sizes have tough
-

precision heads.

- * Craft knife – Can be dangerous, so take care, but is also very useful for cutting veroboard or cutting tracks.

1.9 Disclaimer & Liscence Agreement

The program is provided "as is" and without warranty. This program was written over a three month period, and has been tested and is completely bug-free. However, the author is not responsible for damages to either hardware or software as a result in building these projects for your computer. Any projects I have "borrowed" remains unchanged, leaving the original authors credited for their work.

This program remains the work of the author (Craig Daines). It is freely distributable via the Giftware scheme – read 'Giftware' on title page on how you can help the author to release future versions. However, it is forbidden to:

- 1) Edit/Change/Erase part(s) of the program.
- 2) Public Domain Libraries may not charge more than £1 for this program.

I refuse to enter into communications regarding how to build these various hardware devices. Read the instructions provided with each of the projects carefully!

1.10 Build a 4 Player Adapter

4 Player Adapter (Instructions)
4 Player Adapter (Circuit Diagram)

This project details how to construct a four-player adapter, which allows you to plug in four joysticks simultaneously for playing games that support this device, such as Gauntlet 2, etc.

1.11 4 Way IDE Splitter for A1200/A4000

4 Way IDE Splitter (Instructions)
4 Way IDE Splitter (Circuit Diagram) (Figure 1)
4 Way IDE Splitter (Circuit Diagram) (Figure 2)

This hardware project details how to construct a 4 way IDE splitter, which allows you to connect upto 4 IDE devices to your Amiga 600/1200 simultaneously.

1.12 Build Your Own A1200 Tower System

4 Way IDE Interface for A1200/A4000
Build Your Own A1200 Tower System
CDDA Mixer For Your CD-Rom Drive
Connecting Up The Reset Switch For Your A1200T
Connecting Your A1200 To The Tower's Power Supply
How To Connect Up an IDE CD-ROM Drive
LED Tower Solution For Your DIY A1200 Tower

These series of articles cover all the relevant aspects of converting your A1200 into a tower case. There are links in the projects for easy cross referencing. Good luck building your A1200 Tower!

-Craig Daines

1.13 How To Build an A4000!

How to Build an A4000!

1.14 Add an Extra Hard disk to your A4000/030!

How To Add Extra Hard Drive

This article details how to add an extra hard disk to your Amiga 4000.

1.15 Adding a 5/14" Disk Drive For Your Amiga

Adding a 5/14" Disk Drive To Your Amiga

This article details how to modify an existing 5/14" disk drive so that you can use it with your Amiga.

- Craig Daines

1.16 Build an Ami-Card Hardware Copying Dongle

Ami-Card Hardware Copying Dongle
Load Ami-Card Software

Important!

Click on 'Load Ami-Card Software' ONLY if you are not running your screenmode in a VGA mode such as Multiscan Productivity, otherwise you will get a corrupt screen!

Ami-Card Software has been included:

The software is Public Domain and freely distributable. It's called Ami-Card.exe and can be found in the Hardware Projects directory (the same directory as this Amigaguide) should you wish to copy it to your hard disk,

or onto a self booting disk.

- Craig Daines

1.17 Amiga Accelerator for A500

Amiga Accelerator for A500 (Instructions)

Amiga Accelerator for A500 (Circuit Diagram)

1.18 Amiga Interface for Macintosh 800KB Disk Drive

Amiga Interface for Macintosh 800KB Disk Drive

Amiga Interface for Macintosh 800KB Disk Drive (Circuit Diagram)

This article explains how you can connect up a 800KB Apple Macintosh disk drive to your Amiga.

- Craig Daines

1.19 Build your own Amiga Scart Lead

Amiga Scart Lead

This article explains how to build a Scart Cable, allowing you to connecting your Amiga to the TV via scart for improved picture quality.

1.20 Fitting a 486 CPU Cooler To Your Apollo 1240/25

Fitting a 486 CPU Cooler To Your Apollo 1240/25Mhz Card

This file I have written details how you can fit a replacement CPU cooler to your Apollo card.

- Craig Daines

1.21 Build an Amstrad Monitor to Amiga Cable

Amstrad Monitor To Amiga Lead

This article details how to construct a cable to connect an old Amstrad monitor to your Amiga.

1.22 Build a VGA Multisync Adapter

VGA Multisync Adapter

VGA Mutisync Adapter (Circuit Diagram)

1.23 Audio Amplifier For Your Amiga

Audio Amplfier

Audio Amplifier (Circuit Diagram)

This project details how to build an amplifier to amplify your Amiga's audio.

1.24 Sound Sampler For Any Amiga

Audio Sampler

Audio Sampler (Circuit Diagram)

This project details how to build an Audio Sampler for your Amiga.

1.25 CD32 Connection Hacks

CD32 Connection Hacks

CD32 Connection Hacks (Circuit Diagram)

This article details how to construct a networking cable to link a CD32 to an Amiga, and also how to connect up an A2000 keyboard to your CD32!

1.26 A64 Emulator Lead For Use With A64

A64 Emulator Lead

A64 Emulator Lead (Circuit Diagram)

This project describes how to build an A64 Emulator lead, which enables you to connect a Commodore 64 diskdrive to your Amiga which is used in conjunction with the Commodore 64 emulator 'A64 Package' for the Amiga.

1.27 Build Your Own CDDA Mixer

CDDA Mixer

CDDA Mixer Circuit Diagram (Figure 1)

CDDA Mixer Circuit Diagram (Figure 2)

CDDA Mixer Circuit Diagram (Figure 3)

CDDA Mixer Circuit Diagram (Figure 4)

This article gives you information on how to build a combined volume booster and CDDA mixer for your Amiga, which mixes the CD audio from your CD-ROM drive with your Amiga's audio.

1.28 Connecting an IDE CD-ROM to Amiga 600/A1200

Connecting an IDE CDROM Drive to Your A600/A1200

1.29 Upgrading an HST Only Modem To Dual Standard

Upgrading an HST Only Modem To Dual Standard

Upgrading an HST Only Modem To Dual Standard (FIGURE 1)

Upgrading an HST Only Modem To Dual Standard (FIGURE 2)

Upgrading an HST Only Modem To Dual Standard (FIGURE 3)

Upgrading an HST Only Modem To Dual Standard (FIGURE 4)

1.30 LED Box

LED Box For Your Modem

This project is useful if you have a modem and phone on the same line. It warns other members of the household not to lift the handset in the other room. Refer to instructions (above) on how to build it.

- Craig Daines

1.31 Light Sensor

Light Sensor

Light Sensor (Circuit Diagram)

1.32 Midi Interface

Midi Interface

Midi Interface (Circuit Diagram)

This project is for a Midi interface, which lets you connect up any midi compatible synthesizer to your Amiga.

1.33 MTX Transmitter

MTX Transmitter

MTX Transmitter (Circuit Diagram)

A 'bugging device' which transmits to FM radio. Not liscenceable in the UK!

1.34 Null Modem Cable

Null Modem Cable

Details how to build a Null-Modem Cable for connecting to Amiga's togther. With this device, you can play head-to-head games such as Knight's of The Sky and Stuntcar Racer, etc.

1.35 Overclocking Accelerators

Overclocking Accelerators

Squeeze some extra speed from your trapdoor fitting A1200 accelerator card.

1.36 Parnet Help

Parnet Help

Cable.pic256.iff (Diagram)

Cable.pic32.iff (Diagram)

Parts.pic256.iff (Diagram)

Parts.pic32.iff (Diagram)

PlugToPlug.pic.iff (Diagram)

This article describes how to build a Parnet cable, for networking two Amiga's together.

If you wish to extract the Parnet software for use with an Amiga CDTV then please ensure you have the command line version of DMS in your Workbench C: drawer and then [click here](#) to extract it and insert a write enabled floppy disk in drive DF0:

1.37 Pause Switch for Amiga 500

Pause Switch

Pause Switch (Diagram)

This article details how to build a footswitch operated pause switch for your Amiga 500/500+

1.38 Use PC Joysticks With Amiga!

PC Joystick To Amiga Interface

1.39 Rapid Autofire For Joysticks That Don't Have an Autofire!

Rapid Fire Joystick Interface

Rapid Fire Joystick Interface (Circuit Diagram)

1.40 Connecting up the Reset Switch for your A1200T

Reset Switch For A1200 Installed In a Tower Case

Reset Switch For A1200 Installed In a Tower Case (Circuit Diagram)

1.41 Rom Switcher For Your A500/A2000

Rom Switcher

Rom Switcher (Diagram 1)

Rom Switcher (Diagram 2)

Rom Switcher (Diagram 3)

Rom Switcher (Diagram 4)

This hardware project is for a ROM switcher for your Amiga 500, which allows you to choose between Kickstarts.

1.42 Sega Joypad Conversion

Sega Joypad Conversion

Sega Joypad Conversion (Circuit Diagram)

This project allows you to use a Sega Megadrive joypad with your Amiga. Developers source code is included.

I've provided the source code for this project. You can find it in the HardwareProjects/Source_Code/ drawer.

- Craig Daines

1.43 Sound Enhancer

Sound Enhancer

SEBP_Sheet1.iff (Diagram 1)

SEBP_Sheet2.iff (Diagram 2)

SEBP_Sheet3.iff (Diagram 3)

SEBP_Sheet4.iff (Diagram 4)
SEBP_Sheet5.iff (Diagram 5)

This project is for a Sound Enhancer, which improves your Amiga audio's and also acts as a passive mixer.

1.44 Sticky Box Mouse/Joystick Switcher

Sticky Box
Stick Box (Circuit Diagram)

An automatic mouse/joystick switch for switching between mouse and 2nd joystick (no more unplugging!)

1.45 Superbase Hardware Dongle (For Use With Superbase Software)

Superbase Hardware Dongle

1.46 Track Display (For Your Diskdrive)

Track Display
Track Display (Circuit Diagram)

A hardware project which displays what tracks your disk drive is reading and outputs the information to a backlit display.

1.47 Updating Your Amiga 500

Updating Your Amiga 500

1.48 Video Digitizer For Any Amiga

Video Digitizer
Video Digitizer (Circuit Diagram)

A Video Digitizer project for capturing video images from TV, VCR, Camcorder or Sattelite.

1.49 Bootblock Virus Detector For Your Amiga

Virus Detector
Virus Detector (Circuit Diagram)

This project is for a virus detector, and will beep, when a bootblock virus writes to a disk.

1.50 Voltage Controller

Voltage Controller

Voltage Controller (Circuit Diagram 1)

Voltage Controller (Circuit Diagram 2)

This project allows you to control external devices such as Lights, Solderoids, etc. from your Amiga.

I've also provided the Amos source code for this project - you can find it in the HardwareProjects/Source_Code/ drawer. It's called Controller.Amos

- Craig Daines

1.51 ZXAM New Interface

ZXAM New Improved Tape Interface

ZXAM New Improved Tape Interface (Circuit Diagram)

This hardware project tell you how to build the new tape interface hardware for ZXAM Spectrum Emulator. Using this device and a cassette recorder you can transfer your snapshotted Spectrum games onto cassette.

- Craig Daines
