

Add525

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Chapter 1

Add525

1.1 Adding a 5 1/4" disk drive to your Amiga

HOOKING A 5.25" DRIVE TO YOUR AMIGA
By Les Ayling

Description:

Hooking up a standard 80 track, double-sided, 5 1/4" floppy disk drive as drive df2: or df3: to your Amiga.

Looking at the connector from the back side of the external drive, the pin out is as follows:

712 11 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

23 22 21 20 19 18 17 16 15 14 13

34 Pin edge connector pin-out is as follows:

34 32 30 28 26 24 22 20 18 16 14 12 10 8 6 4 2

33 31 29 27 25 23 21 19 17 15 13 11 9 7 5 3 1

Wire a DB25 (RS-232) connector with pins 13 and 25 cut off per the following configuration:

34 Pin 23 Pin

34 ----- 1

32 ----- 13

30 ----- 2

```

28 ----- 14
26 ----- 15
24 ---7----- 16
22 ----- 17
20 ----- 18
18 ----- 19
16 -----
14 ----- 9
12 ----- 21
10 -- tie to ground, keep the motor running all the time
8 ----- 22
6 ----- 20
4 -----
2 -----

```

all odd numbered pins of the 34 pin connector should be tied to pins 3, 4, 5, 6 & 7 of the 23 Pin connector (grounds).

In addition, pin 11 of the 23 pin connector should be wired to a momentary push-button that can be activated whenever a diskette is removed and replaced with another. This tells the DOS that a different diskette has been inserted into the drive. Simply change the diskette, push the button and hold until DOS accesses the drives. The switch may then be released. This function is necessary due to the fact that the DOS seems to read the directory of the current diskette into ram, and unless the DOS is told of another diskette being used, it will either ask you to replace the diskette that was in the drive or write to the diskette using parameters from the previous disk. This, of course, is very undesirable.

Also, note that the drive must be connected when booting DOS or it will not be noted as being on-line. The diskette does not have to be inserted, just the drive plugged in.

Do not make any connections to the 23 pin connector, pins 23 or pin 12. These pins provide power to the Amiga drive 1 and may not be used to power an external 5 1/4" drive. An external power supply must be used.

The 5 1/4" drive selection header may be programmed as drive for drive 2. Drive 1 selects as DF2: and drive 2 selects as DF3:.

A motor on latch circuit may be built to eliminate the motor continuously turning, however, the way indicated above is the quickest and simplest method to get another drive on-line.

After this procedure is completed, the 5 1/4" drive may be used just as any normal Amiga drive.

Considering the \$295.00 list price of the Amiga drives, versus about \$50 dollar price of 5 1/4" drives, it's a real bargain.

Remember:

As always, with any hardware project:

(1) - if you are not sure of what I am talking about, get knowledgeable help.

(2) - TRIPLE CHECK your work before plugging in the new drive.

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