

# **Screen**

Paul Manias

<b>COLLABORATORS</b>
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	<i>TITLE :</i> Screen		
<i>ACTION</i>	<i>NAME</i>	<i>DATE</i>	<i>SIGNATURE</i>
WRITTEN BY	Paul Manias	July 26, 2024	

<b>REVISION HISTORY</b>
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NUMBER	DATE	DESCRIPTION	NAME

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# Chapter 1

## Screen

### 1.1 Object: Screen

#### OBJECT DOCUMENTATION

Name: SCREEN  
Version: 0.9 Beta  
Date: October 1997  
Author: Paul Manias  
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#### CHANGES VERSION 0.9B

Edited: Screen description.  
Screen->Palette

Added: Screen->Attrib:BLANKPALETTE.  
Screen->Switch

Removed: Screen->AmtColours  
Screen->ByteWidth  
Screen->LineMod  
Screen->PicHeight  
Screen->Planes  
Screen->PlaneMod  
Screen->PlaneSize  
Screen->ScrType  
Screen->Width

Renamed: ScrHeight, ScrWidth to Height, Width.  
PicX/YOffset to BmpX/YOffset

### 1.2 Object: Screen

#### OBJECT

Name: Screen  
Module: Screens  
Version: 1  
Type: Complex

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## DESCRIPTION

The Screen represents the values of an area of displayable video memory. Although it is probably the most complex structure, it is fairly simple to initialise. Indeed it is possible to initialise a Screen by passing an empty Screen structure to Init() and accepting all the user defaults (recommended if possible).

For more demanding applications however you may often need to specify a few fields. Before doing so, make sure that you understand how each field operates and what implications setting them may bring. Where possible try to avoid setting field values, as the user default should always be considered as acceptable.

## NOTE

The MemPtrX fields can change without notice while your program is running. This is because the memory pointers move around when the screen is hidden or moved from the display. To ensure the screen does not move from video memory you can use the LockVideo() action.

## ACTIONS

The Screen object supports the following actions:

CopyStructure()	Copy screen details to another object.
Display()	Display a screen on a monitor or TV.
Free()	Free a Screen from the system.
Get()	Get a new Screen structure.
Hide()	Hide a screen from view.
Init()	Initialise a Screen.
Lock()	Lock a screen from other tasks.
Unlock()	Unlock a locked screen.

## FUNCTIONS

Some functions that support the Screen object are:

```

LockVideo()
RefreshScreen()
RemakeScreen()
ResetPicture()
UnlockVideo()

```

## STRUCTURE

The Screen structure consists of the following public fields:

Attrib	Special Attributes are?
+ Bitmap	Pointer to bitmap structure (for blitting).
BmpXOffset	Offset of the horizontal axis.
BmpYOffset	Offset of the vertical axis.
Height	The height of the visible screen window.
MemPtr1	Pointer to screen 1
MemPtr2	Pointer to screen 2 (doubled buffer)
MemPtr3	Pointer to screen 3 (tripled buffer)
Palette	Pointer to the screen palette.
Rasterlist	Pointer to a rasterlist.
ScreenLink	Pointer to a linked screen.
ScrMode	What screen mode is it?
Switch	Set if ready to switch display buffers.
Task	Task that owns this screen.

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Width	The width of the visible screen window.
XOffset	Hardware co-ordinate for TOS.
YOffset	Hardware co-ordinate for LOS.

## 1.3 Object: Screen

### FIELD

Name:	Attrib
Type:	LONG
Inheritance:	Some flags can be set by the user.
On Change:	Cannot change after initialisation.
Status:	Read/IWrite

### DESCRIPTION

Defines the special attributes for the screen. Currently available flags are:

#### BLANKPALETTE

Any screen with 256 colours or less will open with a pre-defined user palette if Screen->Paltte is NULL. By setting this flag you can dismiss this and the screen will open with a pure black palette.

#### BLKBDR

Turns all colours outside of the display window to black. Works on AGA only.

#### CENTRE

Centres the screen by calculating the correct offsets for ScrXOffset and ScrYOffset for any screen mode. The calculated values will over-write any values already set in these fields.

#### DBLBUFFER

Allocates an extra screen buffer which is placed in MemPtr2. See the SwapBuffers() function for more information on double buffering.

#### HSCROLL

Set if you want to use horizontal picture scrolling.

#### NOSCRBDR

Allows sprites and other displayable objects to appear outside of the viewport. Works on AGA only.

#### SBUFFER

Allocates extra space to allow you to horizontally scroll up to 50 screens in either X direction.

#### SPRITES

Set if you intend to use sprites with this screen.

#### TPLBUFFER

Allocates two extra buffers which are placed in MemPtr2 and MemPtr3. See the SwapBuffers() for more information on triple buffering.

Note: Never set the DBLBUFFER flag in conjunction with the TPLBUFFER flag.

---

## VSCROLL

Set if you want to use vertical picture scrolling.

## 1.4 Object: Screen

The Bitmap is the display data that shows through onto screen. The Bitmap can be larger than the Screen area, but must never be smaller than the Screen area.

## 1.5 Object: Screen

### FIELDS

Names: BmpXOffset, BmpYOffset  
Type: WORD  
On Change: RemakeScreen()  
Status: Read/Write

### DESCRIPTION

These two fields set the offsets for the Bitmap "behind" the Screen. If you want to do any sort of hardware scrolling, you will want to use these values in conjunction with MoveBitmap().

## 1.6 Object: Screen

### FIELDS

Names: MemPtr1, MemPtr2, MemPtr3  
Type: APTR  
On Change: Cannot change after initialisation.  
Status: Read/IWrite  
Inheritance: Allocated by Init().

### DESCRIPTION

These fields point to the screen display data. They should be NULL if you want Init() to allocate the memory for you (highly recommended). Otherwise it will be assumed that the values are valid pointers to video memory and screen based functions will use them as such.

## 1.7 Object: Screen

### FIELD

Name: Palette  
Type: LONG \*  
On Change: UpdatePalette()  
Inheritance: Pre-defined user palette.  
Status: Read/Write

### DESCRIPTION

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Points to the palette for this screen. Your palette array must be represented in 24 bit colours (0x00RRGGBB). The format of the array looks like this:

```
PALETTE, <AmtColours>,
0x00RRGGBB,
...
```

Example:

```
LONG Palette[] = {
    PALETTE, 4,
    0x292894, 0x29f8f8, 0x499249, 0x392423
};
```

If you do not set this field then a user palette will be allocated and placed in this field. If you specify the BLANKPALETTE flag in Screen->Attrib, then you will get a black palette.

#### NOTE

If the screen type is of CHUNKY15 or better, this field will be ignored as colours are represented in the pixels, not a palette.

SEE ALSO

Bitmap: AmtColours

## 1.8 Object: Screen

#### FIELD

Name: Rasterlist  
 Type: APTR  
 On Change: Cannot change by direct means after initialisation.  
 Status: Read/Write  
 Inheritance: None

#### DESCRIPTION

Points to a valid rasterlist structure, or NULL. Rasterlists are made up of instructions that are executed as the monitor beam travels down the screen. See InitRasterlist() for more information on rasterlists.

To change the current rasterlist to another, call RemoveRasterList(), write the Rasterlist field then call InitRasterlist().

To update an existing rasterlist, call UpdateRasterlist().

## 1.9 Object: Screen

#### FIELD

Name: ScreenLink  
 Type: struct Screen \*  
 On Change: Cannot change after initialisation.  
 Status: Read/IWrite

---



**DESCRIPTION**

If you want to set up a second screen at a different position in the viewport, or create an extra (double) playfield, point to the next Screen structure here.

## 1.10 Object: Screen

**FIELD**

Name: ScrMode  
Type: WORD  
Inheritance: User default.  
On Change: Cannot change after initialisation.  
Status: Read/Write

**DESCRIPTION**

Defines the display mode for the screen. If you do not fill in this field, you will get the user's default resolution.

This field does not allow programmed mode promotion - this matter is handled internally and by user selections in GMSPrefs. You cannot force mode promotion from inside your program. NB: If you require compatibility for NTSC, set ScrHeight to 200 (or accept the user default for ScrHeight) and assume that the user has selected NTSC mode promotion in GMSPrefs.

**LORES**

Specifies a low resolution screen.

**HIRES**

Specifies a high resolution screen (1/2 pixels).

**SHIRES**

Specifies a super-high resolution screen (1/4 pixels).

**LACED**

Creates an interlaced display (1/2 pixels).

**HAM**

Sets the Amiga only Hold And Modify mode. The amount of colours you get is dependant on the amount of planes in the screen. Works for planar/interleaved screens only.

## 1.11 Object: Screen

**FIELDS**

Names: Switch  
Type: WORD  
Status: Read/Write

**DESCRIPTION**

SEE ALSO

Screens: WaitSwitch()

Theory: Display Buffering

## 1.12 Object: Screen

### FIELDS

Names: XOffset, YOffset

Type: WORD

On Change: RemakeScreen()

Status: Read/Write

Inheritance: None.

### DESCRIPTION

Specifies the hardware offset for the screen. These two values are added to the user's screen offset in GMSPrefs. A setting of 0,0 should be sufficient, unless you are going to create an extra large screen (eg overscan). Negative values are allowed.

## 1.13 Object: Screen

### FIELDS

Names: Task

Type: struct DPKTask \*

On Change: Cannot change after initialisation.

Status: Read Only.

Inheritance: Task of initialisation.

### DESCRIPTION

Points to a DPKTask structure that identifies the task owning this screen structure.

## 1.14 Object: Screen

### FIELDS

Names: Width, Height

On Change: RemakeScreen()

Status: Read/Write

Inheritance: User default.

### DESCRIPTION

Defines the screen height and width. This is the "viewport" that the picture data is displayed through. The width of the screen must be divisible by 16 for ILBM and Planar modes.

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SEE ALSO

Bitmap: Width  
Height