

PNG-Box

COLLABORATORS

	<i>TITLE :</i> PNG-Box		
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WRITTEN BY		November 11, 2024	

REVISION HISTORY

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Chapter 1

PNG-Box

1.1 PNG-Box_Documentation

PNG-Box V1.40 (23.2.1997)

- SHAREWARE -

© 1997 by Andreas Ralph Kleinert. All rights reserved.

A PerSuaSiVe SoftWorX PRODUCT.

Needs Kickstart V2.04. Kickstart release 3.x compatible.
GUI created with Designer 1.54.

REGISTER NOW

Copyright

Disclaimer

Distribution

The program's purpose

How to install it

Free algorithms... PNG: successor of GIF ...and free speech !
68020-68060

Where to obtain Updates from

How to use it

Evaluation restrictions

Correspondence

Thanks

Version-History

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Only \X/ Amiga makes it possible.

Please visit:

SuperView WWW Sites

http://home.t-online.de/home/Andreas_Kleinert/

<http://www.amigaworld.com/support/sview/>

Simon Edward's Image Engineer WWW Site
<http://yallara.cs.rmit.edu.au/~sbe/>
(Image Processing program produced by Simon Edwards)

1.2 copyright

The program PNG-Box in this version and its documentation files are
(C)opyright 1997 by Andreas R. Kleinert. All rights reserved.

The right of using this program is granted to you by paying the
SHAREWARE-fee of 15 DEM (10 U\$) to the author.

You will receive a personal KEYFILE.
See registration form for details.

PNG-Box makes use of SuperView-Library, which is
(C)opyright 1993-97 by Andreas R. Kleinert and comes separately.
It has its own distribution and usage conditions. Read carefully.

This software is based in part on the png reference library (including
libpng and zlib), which allows being used e.g. for freely distributable
and commercial programs.

libpng:

Copyright (c) 1995, 1996 Guy Eric Schalnat, Group 42, Inc.
Contributing Authors:
Andreas Dilger
Dave Martindale
Guy Eric Schalnat
Paul Schmidt
Tim Wegner

zlib:

(C) 1995-1996 Jean-loup Gailly and Mark Adler

Source versions: zlib V1.0.4, libpng 1.0 beta 4 - version 0.90

Some of the mentioned names or products above may be copyrighted by
companies or trademarks of companies.

Should any of the listed terms and clauses within this document not be
valid in conjunction with the law of certain countries this does not
affect the validity of the other clauses.

1.3 disclaimer

The author takes no responsibility for any results of the use of this
program.
This software is provided "AS IS" and there is no warranty of any kind,

so that you use this software at your own risk.

The author reserves the right to discontinue development of the program.

1.4 distribution

Registered users which paid the SHAREWARE-fee get the rights described on the registration form.

The REGISTERED version of PNG-Box MUST NOT be redistributed.
The Distribution of Keyfiles is FORBIDDEN.

The following only applies to the unregistered evaluation (EL) version of PNG-Box:

The program PNG-Box in this version is freely distributable (SHAREWARE). You may copy it, if the copyright notice is left intact and all of its parts are included in the distribution. This program must not be included in commercial packages or commercial program collections without my written permission. This program must not be sold in any way, but it is allowed to take a nominal fee including the costs for copying.

This program may be put on public domain disks or included in public domain disk libraries.

Special permission hereby goes to Fred Fish's AmigaLib-Disks and the german series (in alphabetical order):
AmigaScene, BerndSPD, FRANZ, GPD, SaarAG, TAIFUN and TIME.

This program may also be distributed via electronic mail and may be put into mailboxes as long as the redistribution conditions are respected in all points.

By using or distributing this program you automatically agree to all of the above conditions and terms.

1.5 purpose

PNG-Box is a program that has been designed to write PNG files for WWW usage as easily as possible.

It can read any file format SuperView-Library does support and can make a PNG file out of it (see USAGE section for details):

- external Fileformat-Libraries (SVObjects):

- | | | |
|---------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| - IFF-ILBM | - Windows, OS/2 BMP | - PNM (PBM, PGM, PPM) |
| - IFF-ACBM | - JPEG (JFIF v6) | - IMG (GEM Graphics) |
| - IFF-YUVN | - PhotoCD | - WPG (WP Bitmaps) |
| - IFF-DEEP | - TIFF | - MacPaint MAC |
| - PCX | - EPS-Header | - C64 (Koala, Doodle) |
| - GIF 87a/89a | - FBM | - Windows Icon |

- QRT/POV Raytrace - Mac PICT-2 - SGI
- SVG - Targa - Pictor/PCPaint
- SunRaster - UtahRLE - PNG
- CorelDraw-Header - IFF-PBM - Atari Degas

as well as all OS3-Datatypes
and 24 Bit DataTypes (picture.datatype V43).

Many formats with 24 Bit-Support.
Reads XPK- and PP20-packed data via Unpack.svobject.

Together with external third party programs also the
following file formats seamlessly can be embedded:

File Format	needs program	also needs support for
- AMF	MetaView	(ILBM)
- Postscript (TM)	Ghostscript	-
- FIG	AmiFIG	(Postscript)
- CGM	GPlot	(Postscript)
- Limbo	Limbo 4.0	(PNM)
- WMF	MetaView	(ILBM)

- support of external periphel devices (DEVICE-access SVObjects):
 - Scanner (scanner.device of ScanQuix)

1.6 installation

Even if you use the supplied Installer-Script, you should read the following notes. If you do not own the standard Installer-Program you should read them even more carefully and follow the instructions given.

Note: Should after starting the installer script appear an error message "Can't find program 'Installer'" (or similar), you have to enter the correct path to your Installer program via the Workbench menu Icon/Information.
Please do also not forget, to obtain and install SuperView-Library !

If you own a KeyFile, place it to "S:", or place it elsewhere and change the environment variable "KEYPATH" to the corresponding directory.

The SuperView-Library has to be obtained and installed seperately, anyway !

Needed Workbench Resources

HardDisk-Users won't perhaps have to install any additional Workbench Resources to their HardDisk.
Disk-Users will have to copy the following libraries into their "LIBS:"-Directory, if these not already do reside in ROM (may depend on the version of the operating system):

- gadtools.library V37+
- asl.library V37+
- utility.library V37+

- workbench.library V37+
- icon.library V37+

Users of OS V2.04 or greater should also install the following libraries:

- amigaguide.library V34+
(please avoid using V34 - it's known to cause problems)

Other needed Resources

You will also have to copy the following libraries to your "LIBS:"-Directory (plus SVOobjects, SVDdrivers and SVOoperators):

- superview.library V15+
- superviewsupport.library V7+

1.7 updatenote

General

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Although the PNG-Box archive does contain most of the needed parts, you might wish to get updates sometimes.

The newest version usually can be found on Aminet under Aminet:gfx/conv/PNG-Box.LHA

## 1.8 usage

The GUI is quite self-explaining:

You can load SuperView-Library support formats from:

- disk
- clipboard
- specific devices (Scanner, etc.)

and save these as PNG files with the following options:

- progression on/off
- transparency on/off (and set a color ranged 0..maxcolors)
- compression 0..9

The GUI will display some useful information about the work being done, there are also some useful menu entries.

That's it :-)

## 1.9 evaluationrestr

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This is the evaluation version of PNG-Box, which is SHAREWARE.

It ticks down a 30 seconds counter in the "annoy" requester at startup.

## 1.10 history

V1.40 (23.2.97):

- stupid: save size check was broken
- fixed various things
- debugged handling of 2..256 color pictures:  
make sure that you at least have PNG.svobject V4.9  
installed (coming with SViewFix580.lha or any library  
version greater than V16.1)

V1.30 (13.2.97):

- added support for superview.library V16+ transparency feature  
(GfxBuffer version V3) - transparent colors will be recognized  
and reflected on the GUI, just like with GIF before
- bugfix: transparent color could only be changed via keyboard,  
not mouse (argh!)
- remaining lock on source GIF file would not have been unlocked  
(transparency-extension check)

V1.20 (5.2.97):

- fixed transparency writing
- transparency checkbox toggled progressive mode as well (oops)
- added "extension mode (checkbox), where extensions source file  
names will be changed to ".png" automatically, if present  
(-> Philippe Duchenne)
- fixed transparency slider control
- added automatic transparency recognition for GIF files - if  
a GIF file had been loaded by an external loader or datatype  
it will again be scanned for transparency information and the  
GUI will reflect this (transparency gad is checked and color is set)  
(-> Philippe Duchenne)
- for all non-GIFs transparency settings will be reset always (yet)
- updated pnglib sources to V0.90

V1.10 (20.1.97):

- GUI now with better font-sensitivity  
(-> Patrik Nydensten)

V1.00 (18.1.97):

- first release

## 1.11 correspondence

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SuperView WWW Sites  
[http://home.t-online.de/home/Andreas\\_Kleinert/](http://home.t-online.de/home/Andreas_Kleinert/)  
<http://www.amigaworld.com/support/sview/>

You may reach me the following way.  
Send bug-reports, money or whatever to:

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\* SuperView Development & Registration \*  
\* DRAFU Development & Registration \*  
\* Image Engineer Registration Site Europe \*

PerSuaSiVe SoftWorX

Andreas R. Kleinert  
Sandstrasse 1  
D-57072 Siegen  
Germany, Europe

Any snail mail to the old address will still be routed.

Phone: +49-271-22869 also FAX + AM  
+49-271-22838

Weekdays after 17.00h.

When calling via phone you may leave a message,  
if I'm not available - but don't expect me  
calling back to USA, Australia, ... since  
german phone rates are HIGHLY expensive.

[http://home.t-online.de/home/Andreas\\_Kleinert/](http://home.t-online.de/home/Andreas_Kleinert/)

eMail:

Please send binaries via [ARK@COB.wwbnet.de](mailto:ARK@COB.wwbnet.de), and keep  
them smaller than 16 KB. Please think twice before  
sending them - my postbox is not unlimited in size.

- Fido      Andreas\_Kleinert 2:2457/350.18  
- Usenet    [Andreas\\_Kleinert@superview.ftn.sub.org](mailto:Andreas_Kleinert@superview.ftn.sub.org) (Fido-Gate)  
            [Andreas\\_Kleinert@t-online.de](mailto:Andreas_Kleinert@t-online.de) (T-Online)  
            [ARK@COB.wwbnet.de](mailto:ARK@COB.wwbnet.de) (Z-Netz)  
            [ARK@amigaworld.com](mailto:ARK@amigaworld.com) (AmigaWorld)

- If nothing else works, try one of these public  
Fido-Usenet gateways:

In Germany:  
[Andreas\\_Kleinert@p18.f350.n2457.z2.fido.sub.org](mailto:Andreas_Kleinert@p18.f350.n2457.z2.fido.sub.org)

From USA or elsewhere:  
[Andreas\\_Kleinert@p18.f350.n2457.z2.fidonet.org](mailto:Andreas_Kleinert@p18.f350.n2457.z2.fidonet.org)

Please note, that the "superview.ftn.sub.org"  
domain will perhaps be renamed soon  
(it is BTW quite slow).

When reporting any bugs, please don't forget to include a detailed description of the bug and tell me, if it is reproduceable or not. Please also mention the version number of PNG-Box you used and describe your system configuration (Amiga model 500/.../4000T-060, Kickstart/OS, RAM, HardDisk, special configurations).

## 1.12 Making use of 680x0 CPUs

This program works WITHOUT any FPU, BUT...

If you do own an 68020/030+68881/882 FPU or 68040/060+FPU you may wish to make use of these.

Usually, Amiga OS' mathieeee-Libraries do automatically manage the coprocessor support, but for some reasons, these libraries are not used with this datatype:

- they can't be shared between processes
- they are not actually optimized for 68040/060+FPU as with OS 3.1

Unfortunately, the used mathtrans.library does not support an FPU at all.

But there's a solution: it is strongly suggested, to use some of the available math-library replacements and/or patches from Aminet.

FMATH from Martin Berndt, for example does replace all of them:

- mathieeedoubbas.library
- mathieeedoubtrans.library
- mathieeesingtrans.library
- mathtrans.library

It is strongly recommended to install V40.6 or a newer version from Aminet (Aminet:util/libs/FMath406.LHA).

There's also a bug in mathieeesingbas.library (which resides in ROM), so that you should install a patch for that:  
For example "SetMathPatch" (coming with e.g. GhostScript) or a newer SetPatch Version V43.x (formerly available from ftp.amiga.de).

## 1.13 thanks

Thanks go to (in order of appearance ;-)  
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(some of these people did register, others did make

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suggestions/bug reports - how about you ?)

- Roman Patzner (for some RomIcons from Aminet)
- Patrik Nydensten
- Philippe Duchenne

## 1.14 About PNG - successor of GIF

PNG is the successor of the GIF file format. Other than GIF it is completely free of patent claims and has been designed with free data exchange in mind. Drop GIF for PNG - free algorithms are as important as free speech on the internet:

GIF is obsolete - you neither should use nor support it any longer. If you are doing WWW design, use PNG and JPEG instead. It's important !

For more information on PNG (pronounce: PiNG) for example look at:

- [1] PNG specification (AmigaGuide format)  
-> Aminet:docs/hyper/PNG-guide.lha
  - [2] PNG WWW homepage  
-> <http://www.wco.com/~png/>
  - [3] PNG upgrade tools like gif2png  
-> Aminet:gfx/conv/gif2png-0.6.lha
  - [4] programs capable of PNG, like PPaint, SuperView, etc.
-