

AssignZ

COLLABORATORS

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Chapter 1

AssignZ

1.1 Welcome to the AssignZ documentation

AssignZ Version 2.10

NOTE

Because of very little response from users we decided to make AssignZ "Anyware" i.e. we will accept anything useful that users want to give to us.

So, there is no crippled version anymore. We really hope that more users lead to more contributions... :-))

Introduction	What is AssignZ?
Legal stuff	Copyright and distribution
Usage	How to use AssignZ
Configuration	Description of the configuration file
Installation	How to install AssignZ
Donations	What we would really like to get
Authors	Who created AssignZ?
Credits	Our thanks go to...

Quote:

Amiga Shopper (UK) September 1995:

"Brilliant. AssignX has been a favourite utility by many for some time and now AssignZ offers the power of AssignX, only more so. When using programs, it's not uncommon to get a requester for a certain volume, when the problem is that you've renamed the disk or put it in a different directory. Now, when this requester is thrown up, you will be offered a GUI that can select and create an assign, mount a volume or deny it. A powerful assign manager that appears automatically when you need it."

1.2 Introduction

Introduction:

AssignZ is intended to ease the use of assignments and mountable devices (e.g. RAD:), replacing the standard 'Please insert volume "BAR" in any drive'-requester with one which lets you make the assigns, even multiassigns and mount devices. So far this is nothing new. AssignZ lets you save the settings, so that it will assign/mount the volumes in the future without having the user doing the whole procedure again. AssignZ also lets you edit the settings using a GUI. Contrary to other tools, AssignZ will create assigns "on demand", so no unneeded assigns are around.

AssignZ was inspired by Steve Tibbet's AssignX.

1.3 Legal stuff

Copyright and distribution:

AssignZ is copyrighted by Tobias Abt and Alexander Kneer.

It may be distributed on any possible way if the archive structure is left untouched and no files are modified. The authors explicitly allow adding of BBS advertisements in the root directory of the archive.

Updates will be placed on Aminet first, and may possibly be found on one of my WWW pages if I find some time to rewrite my pages.

The distribution archive must contain:

- AssignZ/AssignZ
- AssignZ/catalogs/deutsch/AssignZ.catalog
- AssignZ/Docs.info
- AssignZ/Docs/deutsch.info
- AssignZ/Docs/deutsch/AssignZ.guide
- AssignZ/Docs/deutsch/AssignZ.guide.info
- AssignZ/Docs/english.info
- AssignZ/Docs/english/AssignZ.guide
- AssignZ/Docs/english/AssignZ.guide.info
- AssignZ/icons/AssignZ16.info
- AssignZ/icons/AssignZ4.info
- AssignZ/Install-AssignZ
- AssignZ/Install_Deutsch.info
- AssignZ/Install_English.info
- AssignZ.info

Disclaimer:

No Warranty of any kind is given that the program described in this document is 100% reliable. You are using this material at your own risk. The authors cannot be made responsible for any damage which is caused by using AssignZ.

1.4 How to use AssignZ

Usage:

Using AssignZ can be divided into two major steps: creating assignments (and mounting devices) and configuring AssignZ. Both actions are rather simple, so everyone should be capable of controlling AssignZ.

Creating assigns and mounting devices:

Whenever any program tries to access a volume name which is currently not available, AssignZ pops up a requester to let you, the user, choose any directory (or even file, which may be useful sometimes) to assign to the requested volume name (e.g. a program wants to access "Aminet:" you could assign this name to "Work:Aminet"). Or you may mount the requested device (e.g. "RAD:").

If the AssignZ requester pops up, you can choose what to do: either insert the requested disk now or choose a directory where you want to link the assign to (for quick selection of current directory of the program there is a separate button "Assign to CD") or if the volume has to be mounted choose "Mount" or "Mount from..." (if you want to mount the device from a mountlist other than "DEVS:MountList"). If you do not want to insert the requested disk you may choose "Cancel" or "Deny" (if you do not want to be asked for that volume again until the next system reboot).

AssignZ performs the replacement of the standard "Please insert volume ... in any drive" requester by patching EasyRequestArgs(). Therefore this can only work for programs which do not have system requesters disabled.

Configuring AssignZ:

You can edit the assigns and mounts any time you want using the GUI. This can be opened by pressing the hotkey (defaults to "lcommand z", can be set with the "CX_POPKEY" tooltype) or by starting AssignZ a second time or by using the "Show Interface" button of the "Exchange" tool.

You can add new assigns or mounts, modify existing ones or delete any of them. If you create more than one assign for the a name, this will become a so called "multi assign".

If you want to mount a device which is not defined in your DEVS:MountList file (or for Workbench 2.1+ users the SYS:Storage/DOSDrivers directory) you can manually select a different MountList file. Mounting devices requires "C:Mount" which should be available on your system diskette or in the "C" dirctory of your boot partition.

If you have chosen "Deny" for a previously requested volume and you want to reverse this selection you should activate the menu "Clean Denylist". Then, all previously denied volume names will be discarded and they will pop up, when requested, again.

If you have finished your changes you can save the configuration to disk now. Alternatively, you can edit the configuration file with your preferred text editor.

1.5 Description of the configuration file

The configuration file:

A human readable text file (default: AssignZ.config) is used for storing the configuration data.

Entries in that file:

```
for Assigns: "NAME/K/A,PATH/K/A",
for Mounts: "NAME/K/A,FROM/K".
```

Each entry must have its own, single line, because the file is parsed using ReadArgs()!

The ReadArgs()-Templates

```
for Assigns: "NAME/K/A,PATH/K/A",
for Mounts: "NAME/K/A,FROM/K".
```

A config file could look like that:

```
# $VER: AssignZ.config V1.0 written by AssignZ V2.8
# AssignZ configuration file
#
Assign:NAME="Aminet" PATH="Work:Aminet/"
Assign:NAME="FD" PATH="Includes:FD/"
Mount:NAME="PC0"
Mount:NAME="RAD"
-----
```

1.6 Installation

Installation:

AssignZ is a commodity which should be placed in the SYS:WBStartup drawer of your Workbench. The appropriate ToolTypes are created by the Installer script, so you should better use it!

ToolTypes:

In the tooltypes (or as CLI parameters) you can use the standard commodities tooltypes (CX_#?), the WBStartup tooltypes (STARTPRI, DONOTWAIT) and 'CONFIGNAME' which tells AssignZ what file to use as its standard config file (defaults to: AssignZ.config).

1.7 Donations

What we would like to get from users:

Previously, when AssignZ was Shareware, we requested DM 15 or US\$ 10. The fact that we changed the distribution conditions does not mean we do not like money any more! So, please, keep those dollar bills coming in!

If you don't think, AssignZ is worth your money, we would at least like to hear from you, so you may write us a postcard, a letter or an e-mail and tell us what you think about it.

If you want to do as a favor, you might localize AssignZ (and documentation) for a currently not supported language. Please contact us first if you want to do so, as others may already do this!

When you are a software author yourself, you may also send us a copy of one or more of your programs (but, please, only if they are not already on Aminet!).

By the way, standard mail sucks! So if you can, please use EMail! It's easier, faster and cheaper. Surely for us but probably also for you...

1.8 Authors

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Also available from the authors:

- PopShell, a versatile shell and public screen launcher
- PatchPens, a comfortable tool to control some or even all of the Workbench colors under Workbench 3.x

1.9 Credits

Our thanks go to:

Our beta-testers (in alphabetical order):

Angela, Felix, Günther, Ingmar, Jens, Lothar, Mats, Michael, Oly,
Ralph, Thomas and to all those I forgot,

Commodore Amiga for the Amiga (sad they are gone...),
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and to all the others who help(ed) to make the Amiga so unique.
