xPackIt

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	TITLE : xPackIt		
ACTION	*NAME*	*DATE*	*SIGNATURE*
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REVISION HISTORY			
NUMBER	DATE	DESCRIPTION	NAME

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Chapter 1

xPackIt

1.1 xPackIt v1.7 documentation

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                            xPackIt v1.7
                Shell only Data file xpk packer/unpacker.

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                Copyright © 1994-95 by Michael Barsoom M.D.

  Copyright & Disclaimer   --   Please read this first.
  Features                 --   What exactly does xPackIt do?
  Requirements             --   What you need to run xPackIt.
  Installation             --   How to install xPackIt.
  Usage                    --   How do I get it to work?
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  Author's Address         --   How do I reach the author.
  History                  --   What has changed.
```

1.2 Copyright & Disclaimer

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                        -+- License  -+-
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xPackIt is being released under the concept of Freeware. You may use and copy
this program, as long as you meet the following:

xPackIt may be freely distributed as long as no charge is made other than to
cover time and copying costs. If it is to be distributed via floppy disk,
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AmigaFormat magazine is forbiden to include xPackIt on its cover disks.

                          -+- Disclaimer -+-

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either expressed or implied. The user assumes all risks and responsibilities
related to its use.

1.3 Features

xPackIt is a cli program to pack and unpack files using xpk libraries.

Features:
        o One program for packing and unpacking.
        o Will not pack executables unless told to do so.
        o Will automatically determine if a file is packed or not and
          then either unpack it or pack it respectively
        o Allows use of wildcards to pack/unpack whole directories.
        o Files can be encrypted, and passwords can be entered on the command
          line.
        o Default options can be stored in an environment variable
        o When packing/unpacking a directory which recursion on, xPackIt
          will maintain the directory structure in the destination directory
        o xPackIt can pack/unpack files which are larger than your available
          memory.
        o File comments and protections will not be lost when a file is
          processed by xPackIt.
        o Files will can just be copied if they cannot be packed/unpacked

1.4 Requirements

xPackIt does not require much, you just need to have the following:

 1) Workbench 2.0+
 2) xpk libraries

optional
 3) ReqTools library (© Nico Francois) this is not required unless you
   wish to enter passwords via a requester when decrunching encrypted
   files

Also xPackIt must be run from shell, if you run it from WB it will just exit.

1.5 Installation

Manual installation:
 1) Make sure you have a xpk libraries in libs:.
 2) Copy the appropriate xPackIt type in any directory you want, I recommend
    C:

1.6 Usage

 xPackIt v1.7 xpk Packer/UnPacker
 Copyright © 1994-95 by Michael Barsoom M.D. (Freeware)

Usage: xPackIt <source> [<destination>] [Lib=Method] [PassWord]
                [Efficiency 0-100] [Chunk=ChunkSize] [All] [Executable]
                [Pack] [UnPack] [Copy]
 Method   : Method to use for packing.
 PassWord   : Password to use for encrypting/decrypting.
 Efficiency : Efficiency to use while packing (1-100)
 ChunkSize   : Chunk size to use when packing
 All   : Enter directories recursively (only with wildcards)
 Executable : Pack executables also.
 Pack   : Only pack files.
 UnPack   : Only UnPack files.
 Copy   : Copy files, if they cannot be packed/unpacked

 Hit ^C to quit, ^D to abort packing/unpacking.
 If no destination is given source will be overwritten

1.7 Options

  Source
    Files, directory, or pattern of files to pack/unpack.
    To pack/unpack all files in a directory use xPackIt #?

    If you need to use the wildcard ? use (?) instead, this is required
    because ? is used for the built in help.

    If packing a group of files, you may need to hit ^C twice, once to abort
    packing/unpacking, and once to quit.

  Destination
    The destination file or directory. This is optional, if not given the
    source files will be overwritten, without warning

    The destination can either be a file or a dir. If you specify a dir as
    the destination, the source file will be saved (either packed or
    unpacked) with the same name in the destination. When using wildcard,
    if you give a destination it MUST be a directory.

    You can use "" to signify the current directory, just like AmigaDos' copy

command.

Method
  This is where to specify the xpk suplibrary you wish to use.
  You can also specify the efficiency with this arguement by specifing it
  after the method name separating the two with a '.'
  For example: Method=PWPK.100
  The default is 'BLZW'.

Efficiency
  This options sets the efficiency with which the file should be packed.
  For the xpk libraries that support efficienct the range is 0-100, with
  0 being the worst and 100 being the best.
  Default is 50.

Password
  This options lets you specify the password to encrypt a file with, or the
  password needed to unpack an encrypted file.
  Default NONE.

Executable
  Force xPackIt to crunch executable. You will not be able to run the
  packed file unless you are using xLoadSeg.
  Default don't pack executables.

ChunkSize
  This option allows you to specify the amount of data that the xpk sub
  library should try to pack at one time.
  Default dependant on current xpk sub library

Pack
  This option puts xPackIt into a pack only mode. Files that are already
  packed will be left alone.
  Default off.

UnPack
  This option puts xPackIt unto an unpack only mode. Files that have not
  been packed will be left alone, while files which have been packed will
  be unpacked.
  Default off.

All
  This option tells xPackIt to enter directories recursivally. If you
  specify this option, and give a destination directory xPackIt will
  preserve the directory stucture, creating all needed
  directories/subdirectories.

Copy

This option make xPackIt copy files, without changing them if they cannot
be packed/unpacked. Files will be copied in the following three cases:
    1) The file cannot be packed
    2) You specified Pack Only, and the file is already packed
    3) You specified UnPack Only, and the file in not already packed.

1.8 Defaults

Starting with v1.1 you are no longer stuck with the default that I have
chosen. You can now specify your own default by setting the environment
variable xPackIt.

The template for ENV:xPackIt is
  Lib=Method/K,PW=PassWord/K,E=Efficiency/K/N,All/S,Chunk=ChunkSize/K/N,
  Exe=Executable/S,Pack/S,UnPack/S,Copy/S

Just set it as you want the default values to be.

Now you can also use the command line to toggle the values. If you specify an
option in the environment variable and again on the command line it will be
turned off. In other words if an option is specified on both the command line
and the environment variable it will be as if you did not specify the option;
but if and option is specified in EITHER the envronment variable OR the
command line it will be activated.

1.9 Address

you can reach me at:

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    USA

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           mbars@bluejay.creighton.edu

1.10 History

Version 1.7   (07.08.95 02:25:53)

    - Docs stated that xPackIt was a PowerPacker utility rather
      than a xpk utility (fixed).

    - Specifing 'xPackIt file copy' on a file that could not be
      be packed was not working (fixed).

    - Uses utility library functions now

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Version 1.6                              (03.08.95 20:07:47)
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```

- Optimized the code a bit more, took out some redundant steps

- Now uses ^D to abort packing/unpacking and ^C to quit.

- Added "Copy" mode which just copies file that cannot be
  packed/unpacked.   Requested by Hans Karl Eide

- Slight change in how the default values are read.

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Version 1.5                              (23.07.95 22:36:43)
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```

- Removed some unneed code – should inprove speed a bit.

- Comments and file protection will no longer be lost
  when file is crunch/decrunched.

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Version 1.4                              (04.06.95 02:48:59)
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```

- Now being distributed as freeware. Special thanks to
  Kurt Hindenburg for being the only person to register.

- Chunk size is now user selectable via command line option
  ChunkSize.

- xPackIt will now write each chunck out after they are
  processed rather than all at the end. This will allow you
  crunch files which are larger than your available memory.
  Requested by Tim Ruehsen

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Version 1.3                              (05.05.95 09:19:34)
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```

- Added new address to docs

- xPackIt FOO:file file, was overwriting the original file rather
  than saving it in the current directory (fixed)

- Slight change to progress indicators

- Uses memory pools and exec lists for better memory management.

- Some routines rewritten to make faster.

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Version 1.2                               (28.06.94 23:28:11)
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     - Password can be entered via requester if file is encrypted.

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Version 1.1                               (27.06.94 14:13:03)
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     - Complete rewrite

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Version 1.0                               (18.05.94 21:18:58)
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        --- Initial release ---

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