

DiamondPrefs V1.3 documentation

COLLABORATORS

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Chapter 1

DiamondPrefs V1.3 documentation

1.1 DiamondPrefs V1.3 documentation

Diamond Prefs

Version V1.3 (08.07.1995)

(C) Copyright 1994/95 by Peter Elzner

neXus software

A short summary of what you should know:
Introduction

Technical stuff:
Requirements
Installation
Copyright & Distribution

How to use DiamondPrefs:
The main window
Configuring the Game
Configuring the Editor

Past, present and future:
History
Plans for the future

About MUI
About Diamond Caves

1.2 Introduction

Welcome to DiamondPrefs V1.3

This program provides an easy and comfortable way to configure Diamond Caves Game and the Diamond Caves Editor.

The main window

This program is based on MUI.

1.3 Requirements

Requirements

DiamondPrefs V1.3 requires:

- Kick 2.0
- MUI 2.3
- Diamond Caves V2.0
- Commodore's Installer (can be found on your Workbench-Install-Disk)

This program has been tested with Enforcer, Mungwall and CodeWatcher.

1.4 Installation

Installation

DiamondPrefs comes with a ready-to-run installer-script for the Commodore Installer. Just click on the icon and follow the text in the window.

Basically, the script will copy all necessary files in the Directory "DC:" according to the present version.

1.5 The main window

The main window of DiamondPrefs is separated into two parts:

configuring the Game

configuring the Editor

At the bottom are two buttons:

Save will save your settings to disk

Exit will close the window and leave the preferencesfile unchanged

1.6 configuring the Game

Configuring the Game

Note: If there is a preferencesfile in your DC: drawer, it will automatically be loaded and all tooltype settings will be overridden!

ScreenMode

own Screen

If you want to run Diamond Caves on its own screen, you may choose two different screenmodes, one for the titlescreen and one for the game.

Note that both the title and the game were designed to be used on a screen with a 1:1 pixel-ratio like LoRes or HiRes-Interlace.

Since V2.3 of Diamond Caves, you can even select a CyberGfx screenmode.

Note: Due to limitations in the CyberGfx-Emulation, scrolling is not very smooth. You should use a screenmode big enough to cover the whole playfield to avoid flicker scrolling.

Public Screen

Since V2.0, Diamond Caves can be run on a standard Intuition Screen or on any Public Screen. Due to pen-Sharing, running the Game on a Public Screen is only possible with Kick3.x, a gfx-board is recommended.

The program will always open with the maximum size because the actual game-play is quite fast while the scrolling is slow.

Control

Here you can specify the controlmethod of both players. You have the choice between Joystick in port 1, Joystick in port 2 and Keyboard.

Two player using keyboard will be possible in future versions.

PreSets

Leveldirectory lets you select a default-directory that will be present at startup-time.

Number of players should be obvious

Name is the default-name you want to use.

Misc

gameport.device : Choose if you want to use the gameport.device or bang the Joystick hardware directly.

The next item allows you to place the status line in the game (where your score gets displayed) above or below the game screen. When playing on a CyberGfx screenmode, the status-line will always be below the screen.

Gfxfile : Specify the graphics you want to use in the game. Use DiamondGfx to create your own gfx-file or use the default graphics in Diamond.16col (normal 16 color version) or Diamond.32col (extended 32 color version - see DiamondGfx).

* Note: Use the following two buttons only if you know what you are *
* doing, the program automatically adjusts to your Amiga and most of *
* the time, these settings are the best. *

Timing : Toggles between using the timer.device or the vertical blanking interrupt (VBI) for timing. Use VBI only if you are playing in PAL-mode (will be set automatically, if you specify a PAL-mode)

Speed : This slider controls the time (in 1/2500 seconds) the game has got to do its calculations. The normal value is 50 which leaves 1/50 sec for every frame. 1 is very fast (although most of the time, the calculations will take longer than 0.0004 seconds), 200 is about 4 times slower than normal. This value is not affected by the screenmode you're using.

Note: Speed can only be changed while playing with timer.device.

The button to the right will reset the Speed to the default value of 50.

1.7 configuring the Editor

Configuring the Editor

Select if you want to open the Diamond Caves Editor on its own Screen or on any Public Screen. Due to pen-Sharing, running the Editor on a Public Screen is only possible with Kick3.x.

If you want to use a new Screen, you can select the screenmode of the PublicScreen, every screenmode capable of displaying at least 16 colors is supported.

Note that the minimum size of the screen is 640x400.

Presets

Leveldirectory lets you select a default-directory that will be present at startup-time.

Nr. is the initial levelnumber

You can also select that you want to load the level (specified by number and directory) at the beginning.

1.8 History

V1.0 (01.05.1995)

- first public release (registered users only)

V1.1 (04.06.1995)

- added Interlace-button
 - added Speed-Slider
 - added Gfx-file selection
-

V1.2 (14.06.1994)

- fixed loading of V1.0 preferences file
- window now fits on a 640x200/topaz8 screen
- fixed loading/saving of Interlace-flag
- added "timing" gadget
(PAL-users should use VBI-timing,
other modes use timer.device)

V1.3 (08.07.1995)

- removed Interlace-button
(not necessary any more)
- fixed loading of "nam"-files (Presets)
- Diamond Caves and the Diamond Editor can now both be run on
any Public Screen (Kick3.0 required)
- this program now works for unregistered users, too

1.9 Plans for the future

Plans for the future:

- two different keyboard-controlmethods so that both players
can use the keyboard
- make the keys for keyboard-control editable
- localization

1.10 About MUI

This application uses

MUI - MagicUserInterface

(c) Copyright 1993/94 by Stefan Stuntz

MUI is a system to generate and maintain graphical user interfaces. With the aid of a preferences program, the user of an application has the ability to customize the outfit according to his personal taste.

MUI is distributed as shareware. To obtain a complete package containing lots of examples and more information about registration please look for a file called "muiXXusr.lha" (XX means the latest version number) on your local bulletin boards or on public domain disks.

If you want to register directly, feel free to send

DM 30.- or US\$ 20.-

to

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