

NewWP

Lee Kindness

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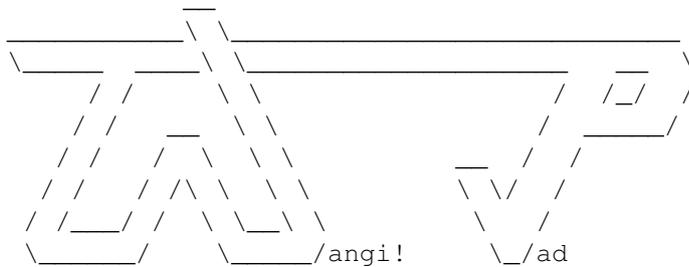
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Chapter 1

NewWP

1.1 Amigaguide Documentation for WangiPad v1.16



WangiPad 1.16
THE tool launcher
for your Workbench 2.04
Amiga.

Introduction	: Read this NOW.
Features	: Why use WP?
Usage	: How to use it.
Version History	: Evolution.
To Do	: My plans.
Thanks/Greets	: Ta Billy :)
Contact/Register	: Authors address.
Other Programs	: Some programs you should try.
Distribution	: Important!

WangiPad the "clean and fresh" tool launcher. Copyright 94-95 Lee Kindness.

1.2 Introduction. It all began when...

WangiPad... Eh? Yes it is a strange name but it is simply a program that launches programs. You will know what it is like if you have a harddisk, click-click, click-click, click-click... through all your drawers to run just one program. WangiPad is the solution to this problem. It creates a menu on your Workbench screen.

Chances are that you will probably be using a similar utility already, so why change to WangiPad? The main reason in my opinion is the format of the menu it creates, most similar utilities create rows of buttons or just add items to the Workbench Tools menu. However WangiPad creates a scrolling list of items (called a pad). This method saves space and is more

elegant than other solutions. For more advantages see Features.

Oh, by the way, Wangi actually means "Clean and Fresh" (Malaysian?), or so I have been told.

1.3 Features of WangiPad

Here are the main features of WangiPad over similar utilities (which are listed later):

1. Has a unique list approach (using a gadtools listview).
2. Because of 1. it saves space on your Workbench screen, when compared to the button docks of ToolManager, ButtonMenu and AmiDock.
3. The list approach is less awkward than using the Workbench Tools menu. However WangiPad can also add items to the Workbench Tools menu.
4. WangiPad supports multiple argument substitution. For example, you use shift-select the pick a group of files, hold down shift and drag the files over an item on WangiPad's list. The corresponding item is then run with the passed files as arguments.
5. Items on the list can be of the following types: Workbench, Shell ARexx or Comment.
6. Each item can have a hotkey for all you keyboard junkies.
7. It is easy to configure... just drag the icon of the command you wish to add to the list to the preference window and its added.
8. Has an easy to use preference editor.
9. It is being constantly improved and updated, see ToDo and Version History.
10. Eh, it has a cool name :)

Similar Utilities

If WangiPad does not appeal to you, or if you want to compare then here is where you can find similar utilities on Aminet:

ToolManager2lbin.lha	util/boot	490K+ToolManager 2.1 (Binaries and Documentatio
ToolManager2lgfx.lha	util/boot	175K+ToolManager 2.1 (Anims, Brushes and Icons)
ButtonMenu_122.lha	util/misc	58K+Easy creation of customizable menus (OS2.0
AmiDock.lha	util/boot	56K+Amiga version of NeXT's Dock facility. V1.
ToolsDeamon.lha	util/wb	29K+Run programs from tools menu, V1.0, bin. V

Of course this is not a list of all similar utilities, but a summary of the better ones (IMHO).

1.4 Using WangiPad

Installation : The first steps...
Using WangiPrefs : The NeXT step...
Using WangiPad : The final step...

1.5 Installing WangiPad

To install WangiPad, simply double-click on the supplied installer script (Install_WangiPad). This script requires the Commodore installer.

It is assumed that you already have Reqtools installed on your system. It is required only for minor functions and therefore is not crucial.

1.6 Using WangiPrefs

WangiPrefs is used to configure WangiPad to your needs. The installer script, by default, copies WangiPrefs to SYS:Prefs/. You can use WangiPrefs by either double-clicking on its icon from Workbench or selecting the "Preferences..." item on the menu attached to a WangiPad pad. If launch via the "Preferences..." menuitem then the preferences of that pad will be altered, even if it does not use the default S:Wangi.prefs preference file.

The main window of WangiPrefs contains the following buttons and gadgets, select the appropriate one for more information:

List Items : List containing all items on the pad.
Settings : Misc. global settings.
Save : Save the preferences.
Cancel : Cancel, without saving.
Top : Move item to top of list.
Up : Move item up list.
Down : Move item down list.
Bottom : Move item to bottom of list.
Sort : Sort the list.
New : Add a new item to the list.
Remove : Remove an item from the list.
Copy : Clone an item on the list.

The following menus also exist:

Project/Open... : Open another preference file.
Project/Append... : Append another preference file.
Project/Save As... : Save preferences elsewhere.
Project/About... : Some information on WangiPad.
Project/Quit : Quit without saving.
Edit/Reset To Defaults : Reset preferences to default settings.
Edit/Restore : Reset preferences to previous values.

To make configuration easier you can simply drag the icon of the program that you wish to add to the menu into the window. This will create an appropriate item and bring up the Edit Pad Item window.

1.7 List Items Listview

This list contains all items that will be on the created pad. To edit an item, simply double-click on it and the Edit Pad Item window will pop up.

1.8 Settings

This list contains items which allow you to edit some global settings for the pad. Double click on an item to modify that setting. Settings:

Font	: The font used on the pad.
Window Title	: Text in the pad titlebar.
Screen Title	: Text on the screen titlebar.
Window	: Settings for the pad window.

1.9 Save

The Save button will save the current preferences and exit the program.

1.10 Cancel/Quit

The cancel button and the Quit menuitem will exit the program. The settings will not be saved and the pad will be as it was before you ran WangiPrefs.

1.11 Top

This button will cause the currently selected item in the List Items list to move to the top.

1.12 Up

This button will move the currently selected item in the List Items up one position.

1.13 Down

This button will move the currently selected item in the List Items down one position.

1.14 Bottom

This button will move the currently selected item in the List Items list to the bottom of the list.

1.15 Sort

This button will cause the List Items to be sorted. It is sorted into ascending alphabetical order.

1.16 New

This button will add a new item to the top of the List Items list. The edit pad window will pop up allowing you to edit the new item. If you select cancel on the edit pad window then this item will be removed.

1.17 Remove

This button will delete the currently selected item in the List Items list.

1.18 Copy

This button will clone the currently selected item in the List Items list.

1.19 Project/Open...

Open a new preference file, losing the current one (all changes are lost).

NOTE:

Even though you have opened a new file, if you now press the Save button then the preferences will be saved to the original file (defaults to S:Wangi.prefs or the appropriate file if the Preferences menu item was selected from WangiPad. To save the file in another location, use the Save As menu item.

1.20 Project/Append...

Add the items stored in another file to the end of the current list. The other settings in this file are ignored. This is useful if you wish to join two preference files together into one.

1.21 Project/Save As...

Save the preference file in a user-defined location.

1.22 Project/About...

Display some information. Shows the current version of WangiPad and also to whom it is registered.

1.23 Edit/Reset To Defaults

Sets the miscellaneous Settings to their default values and clears the List Items list.

1.24 Edit/Restore

Resets the preferences to their values before WangiPad was run.

1.25 Edit Pad Item Window

This window lets you fine tune the preferences of each single item. It contains the following gadgets:

Type	: Type of item cycle gadget.
Item Text	: Text in list string gadget.
Directory	: Directory string gadget.
Command	: Command string gadget.
Priority	: Priority slider gadget.
Stack	: Stack integer gadget.
Input/Output	: I/O string gadget.
ARexx Command	: Rexx command string gadget.
ARexx Port	: Rexx port string gadget.
Hot Key	: Hotkey string gadget.
Tools Menu	: Tools menu checkmark gadget.
Edit Command	: Edit command checkmark gadget.
Ok	: Ok button.
Cancel	: Cancel button.

If any of the gadgets are shaded, and therefore unselectable in means that this option is not available for the selected Type.

1.26 Type

This cycle gadget lets you specify what type this item is. It can be one of the following:

Shell: The command is launched as if it were typed in at the command line.

Workbench: The command is launched as if it were double-clicked from Workbench. See Argument Substitution and Bugs.

ARexx: This item initiates an ARexx command.

Comment: This is only a comment in the list, if selected in will do nothing.

1.27 Item Text

This string gadget specifies the text that will appear in the list.

1.28 Directory

This is the directory in which the Command is located. It can be set using a file requester if use press the "^" gadget.

1.29 Command

This is the command to be launched. It can be set using a file requester if use press the "^" gadget.

This command supports argument substitution

1.30 Priority

This lets you specify the priority of the launched Command.

1.31 Stack

This lets you set the stack size of the launched Command.

1.32 Input/Output

Lets you specify the input/output file handles for the Command.
If empty then "NIL:" is assumed (i.e. all output is lost). If you want all input and output to a console window then use:

```
CON:X/Y/WIDTH/HEIGHT/TITLE/AUTO/WAIT/CLOSE
```

eg:

```
CON:////MyComamnd/AUTO/WAIT  
CON:0/0/200/100//AUTO/WAIT/CLOSE
```

(for further information see the documentation for KingCon (on Aminet:
util/shell/KingCON_1.3.lha (or similar)))

1.33 ARexx Command

This lets you specify the ARexx command to be launched. These commands are usually described in the supplying utilities documentation. Some example commands and ports are:

Port	Command	Action
REXX	<Scripname>	Starts an ARexx script
PLAY	file <filename>	Plays a sound sample using Upd

(don't insert < and >)

This command supports argument substitution.

1.34 ARexx Port

This lets you specify the port or client that the ARexx Command will be sent to. ARexx ports are CASE SENSITIVE.

1.35 Hot Key

This string gadget lets you specify a hotkey that will launch this item. The hotkey is defined in the normal input description manner. This feature is only available if you register WangiPad.

1.36 Tools Menu

This checkmark gadget lets you specify if this item is to be added to the Workbench tools menu.

1.37 Edit Command

If this checkmark is checked then a requester will popup after you select this item in the list. It will allow you to change the command that is to be executed.

1.38 Ok

Returns to main window, retaining the changes made to this item.

1.39 Cancel

Returns to main window, ignoring changes made to this item.

1.40 Font

Specifies the font to be used in the pad.

1.41 Window Title

The text on the pad windows titlebar.

1.42 Screen Title

The text on the screen titlebar.

1.43 Window Settings

This item allows you to modify the appearance and positioning of the pad window. The window that pops up has the following gadgets:

Left Edge	: Left position of pad.
Top Edge	: Top position of pad.
Width	: Width of pad.
Height	: Height of pad.
Grab Current Position	: Set the above items.
PubScreen	: Public Screen.
ScrollerW	: Scroller Width.
Pad Type	: Type of pad.
Selection	: Selection of items.
Ok	: Accept changes.
Cancel	: Cancel changes.

1.44 Left Edge

In this integer gadget you can enter the position of the screen that the left edge of the pad will appear at (in screen pixels).

1.45 Top Edge

The screen position that the top edge of the pad will appear at, in screen pixels

1.46 Width

Width of the pad, in screen pixels.

1.47 Height

Height of the pad in screen pixels.

1.48 Grab Current Position

Sets the the Left Edge, Top Edge, Width and Height gadgets to the current values.

1.49 Public Screen

Specifies the public screen that the pad will open on. Note that public screen names are case SeNsItIvE :) If blank or the specified screen does not exist then the pad will open on default public screen.

1.50 Scroller Width

Lets you alter the width of the scroller in the list in the pad.

1.51 Pad Type

Lets you alter the type of pad created, can one of the following:

Float: The default type of pad, much like any other window.

Backdrop: A backdrop pad. The pad cannot be dragged or depth arranged.

Backmost: As float but the pad is automatically pushed to the back every n seconds, see bugs.

FrontMost: As Backmost but brought to the front.

No Border: As Backdrop but the pad has no borders... It looks really cool and appears to be an integral part of your Workbench. My favorite :)

1.52 Selection

Can be either double-click or single-click. Which ever one is selected will be used to distinguish a selection on the pad (Registered version only)

1.53 Ok

Accepts the edits made and returns to the main window.

1.54 Cancels changes made and returns to the main window.

1.55 Using WangiPad

```
Program Arguments          : More Options...
The Menus, Quitting and Hiding : Misc. stuff.
Error Codes                 : Problems?
```

For more detailed information on usage, see the chapter on WangiPrefs and the document on argument substitution.

1.56 Program Arguments

WangiPad supports a number of icon tooltypes, these are useful if you want to have more than one copy of WangiPad running at a time:

FROM: The preference file that the pad will use. If not specified then S:Wangi.prefs is used.

PREF: The complete path and file name of the preference editor. This is used by the preferences menuitem. Defaults to SYS:Prefs/WangiPrefs.

LEVELTIME: If the pad type is set to Backmost or Frontmost then every

n seconds it will be pushed/brought to the back/front.

CX_PRIORITY: The priority of WangiPad in the commodities network. Defaults to -1.

CX_POPKEY: The input description of the event that will cause the pad window to open or close. Defaults to "rawkey control w", i.e. Ctrl-w.

These arguments are also supported if WangiPad is launched from the Shell, the following template is used:

```
FROM,PREF/K,LEVELTIME/K/N,CX_PRIORITY/K/N,CX_POPKEY/K
```

1.57 The Menus, Quitting and Hiding

WangiPad has a menu strip with the following items on it:

```
Project/Preferences... : Edit preferences.
Project/About...       : Some information.
Project/Hide           : Hide the pad.
Project/Quit           : Quit WangiPad.
```

1.58 Preferences...

Lets you alter the settings of the pad.

1.59 Hide

Hides the pad. The pad can also be hidden by pressing **CX_POPKEY**, **h**, **H** or the Hide button in Commodities Exchange. To Show the pad again press **CX_POPKEY** or select Show in Commodities Exchange.

1.60 Quit

Quits WangiPad. Will you ever use this... The Remove button in Commodities Exchange, **q** and **Q** will also quit WangiPad.

1.61 Problems, Errors??

If an error occurs while WangiPad is initilising then one of the following will appear:

1. Can't open gadtools.library (or version too old, V36 needed).
2. Can't open graphics.library.
3. Can't open workbench.library (or version too old, V36 needed).

4. Can't open commodities.library (or version too old, V37 needed).
5. Can't open diskfont.library.
6. Can't open icon.library.
7. Unable to load the preference file (most common error).
8. Can't open the window.
9. Can't initialise commodities bits.
10. Can't initialise inter-process-communication bits
11. Can't initialise the AppWindow stuff.
12. Can't initialise DOS Notify stuff.
13. Can't initialise timer bits 'n' bobs.

If an error occurs when WangiPad is trying to launch a command, i.e. the command does not exist, then a requester will popup telling you of this. If any other error occurs or the program fails in any way then please contact me.

1.62 Multiple Argument Substitution

WangiPad has a feature that lets you pass arguments to selected programs. For example you can create an item to view a picture, but how do you make it versatile enough to view any file? Simple... argument substitution. You would, for example, enter the following as the command in such an item: (Using Viewtek)

```
Viewtek [] (1)
```

note the argument braces. You can place these braces anywhere in the command:

```
Viewtek [] HIRES LACE (2)
```

To use argument substitution you simple drag the selected icons (you can select more than one using shift-select or marquee) over the corresponding item on the list or select the item from the Workbench tools menu if it is added to it. So assuming you dragged a file, file1, on to the above item (2), WangiPad would expand it to the following before execution:

```
Viewtek file1 HIRES LACE (3)
```

If you dragged four files (file1, file2, file3 and file4) then it would be expanded to:

```
Viewtek file1 file2 file3 file4 HIRES LACE (4)
```

WangiPad can do this argument expansion to the Command and ARexx Command fields of an item. If an item is of type Workbench then argument substitution is automatically done as if the files had been shift selected and then the tool double-clicked, you should (and MUST) not add the [] braces.

Argument substitution has some problems with Workbench 2.X, see the section on bugs.

(In examples (3) and (4) the files are shown simply as fileX in the expanded command, in reality they also are expanded to their full path, eg SYS:Directory/SubDir/file1). Also another limitation of argument substitution is that the maximum length of command line generated is 255 characters long

(this limitation does not exist in Workbench type items))

1.63 Bugs

A couple of peculiarities (NOT Bugs :) exist in WangiPad, here they are:

Argument Passing: The above argument substitution works on any item in the list if you are using Workbench 3. However if you are using Workbench 2 then it will only work on the first window full of items. No arguments will be passed to any items apart from the first pad full. This is due to limitations of Workbench 2. You can always access the item from the Workbench tools menu to overcome this.

PadType: If you are using MagicMenus then the "Backmost" and "Frontmost" options will create a menu time-out every LEVELTIME seconds if the menu is in use then. This is not a bug of WangiPad, rather it is a documented side effect of MagicMenu, see the documentation of MagicMenu for more info.

Workbench launch of programs: If you configure a project icon as a "Workbench" item then it will only launch successfully if the tooltype of icon is not relative, i.e. a tooltype of "IconX" will fail, "C:IconX" will succeed. This is a bug with WBStart-Handler.

1.64 Version History

WangiPad was programmed using Highspeed Pascal on an A1200 with a 68030 CPU, 6 MB RAM and 120 MB HD. WangiPad has been tested using Enforcer... It has not punched me! (REG) indicates feature is only available if you register.

1.0 : 20.11.94

+ Initial version.

1.1 : 24.11.94

+ Added "PREF" tooltype and the "About..." and "Preferences..." menuitems to WangiPad.

1.2 : 04.12.94

+ Added the "Pad Level" MX gadgets, these control if the pad is always the front window, backwindow, floating or a backdrop window. Added the "LEVELTIME" option to set the time in seconds that it is checked, defaulting to 5 seconds.

1.3 : 11.12.94

+ Added the "Type" cycle gadget to the edit pad item window, commands can now be launched as if they were double clicked from Workbench.

1.4 : 12.12.94

+ Added "ARexx" and "Comment" to the "Type" cycle gadget in the edit pad window.

+ When the "Preferences..." menuitem is selected from the pad, the

current preference file that the pad is using is edited and not the default.

1.5 : 12.12.94

- + Added "No Border" to the "Pad Level" radio gadgets, with this option the pad has no borders, it appears as if the list is directly on and part of the Workbench.

1.6 : 13.12.94

- + Changed the "Pad Level" radio button gadgets to "Pad type" cycle gadget
- + Added "ScrollerW" slider gadget, set the width of the scroller on the pad.
- + Changed the "Priority" integer gadget in the edit pad item window to a slider gadget.
- + *Huge* cosmetic face lift to the preferences program. How has backfilled areas around the gadgets in all the windows (ala ASL requesters).

1.7 : 20.12.94

- + Shell commands now inherit their path from WangiPad when WangiPad has been started from the Workbench. (A LOT OF WORK)
- + When an item is "Remove"d from the "List Items" list the list no longer moves up to the top item.
- + Escape, "Q" and "q" now quit WangiPad, (when pad window is active).
- + "H" and "h" hides the pad window.

1.8 : 03.01.95

- + Now uses a key file.
- + Can now use either a single or a double click to select an item in the pad (REG) (suggested by Bill Falls).
- + Items can now have hotkeys (REG) (suggested by Bill Falls).
- + Ctrl-C when pad is active quits.

1.9 : 04.01.95

- + bugfix, if you picked an invalid font the pad would open with no text, now defaults to topaz.
- + default CX_PRIORITY changed from 0 to -1.

1.10 : 05.01.95

- + Added AppWindow, if you drop an icon on the prefs editor window then a new item matching it will be added to the list.

1.11 : 11.01.95

- + A requester now pops up if a command can't be executed, the beep before was confusing.
- + Code error handling cleaned up.

1.12 : 15.01.95

- + Removed three Enforcer hits when the close gadget of a "Float" type pad was selected (was being closed twice).

1.13 : 06.02.95

- + Items can now be added to the Tools menu as well.

1.14 : 25.02.95

- + Added "Append" menuitem to preferences, it will append a preference file to the current one.
-

1.15 : 26.02.95

+ Added the "Edit Command" option.

1.16 : 12.03.95

+ Rewrote documentation. Was 19520 bytes (with 14 nodes, 24 links) now 37473 bytes (with 71 nodes, 140 links).

1.65 My Plans for WangiPad

WangiPad is still not complete, here is a list of features that you should expect to see added to WangiPad (in order of time):

1. Add "Test" menuitem to preference program.
2. Allow the specification of minimum and maximum number of arguments if argument substitution is used.
3. Add an ARexx interface ??????
4. Reprogram the utility in C.
5. Add the facility for multiple pads.
6. Allow images in the list as well as text.
7. Put the core of the program into a standard Amiga library, so that it could be used by external/other programs.

If you have any other ideas or suggestions then please don't hesitate to Contact me.

1.66 Thanks and Greets

Thanks go to the following people for daily testing and usage:

Adam Kindness,
Tom Pettigrew,
Jon Pettigrew.

For WBStart-Handler:

Stefan Becker

For suggestions:

Tom Pettigrew
Bill Falls
Eldr
SlingShot

And greets to:

Secka (what is your util then... ?)
F10li (WangiPad is better than ButtonMenu :)
Eldr (What is the name of your HTML 2 Guide converter then?)

1.68 SIRDS

This text SIRDS (Single Image Random Dot Stereogram) was created using make3d (text/misc/mk3dl.1.lha on Aminet). It is highly possible that I will be programming a utility based on mk3d, so keep a look out for TxtBald (will be text/misc/TxtBald.lha on Aminet).

1.69 Mail Address

Lee Kindness
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Aberdeen
AB1 4QR
SCOTLAND.

1.70 email address

Up until around September 95:

bhlbs@rgueee.eee.rgu.ac.uk (put "LSK" in the subject)

After around September 95:

cs1lk@sal.scms.rgu.ac.uk (PLEASE ALWAYS TRY THIS FIRST EVEN BEFORE
or SEPTEMBER 95)
cs2lk@sal.scms.rgu.ac.uk

1.71 Internet Relay Chat

You can catch me on IRC quite regularly (maybe 1-2pm GMT week days and other misc. times). My nick is Wangi (normally on #amiga and #theend, so please type:

/describe gives Wangi a pad (or similar...)

while on #amiga. If I'm not there then you can always leave a message with the bot mama.
