

IconChief

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	<i>TITLE :</i> IconChief		
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REVISION HISTORY

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Chapter 1

IconChief

1.1 main

I c o n C h i e f V1.20

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in 1995/96

= MAILWARE =

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1.2 description

1.1 Description

IconChief is a Program which causes the Workbench to use more than just the usual 6 Default-Icons for Files. If you take a look at a drawer via Workbench using the Option "all Files" of the Menuitem "Show", all Files which have no Icon will be displayed using one of three Default-Icons, as there are Drawer, Program and Project. The other 3 Default-icons are reserved for Disks, Kickstart-Disks and, of course, the Trashcan.

Especially for files of the kind Program and Project you can find out the contents of this file by analysing or by extensions. For example if it is a LHA-Archive or a Text can easily be detected. But even under OS 3.1 the system doesn't pay attention to it and uses one Standard-Icon for all those different kinds of files.

Now comes IconChief to do what you miss. When displaying the Files, each of them will be analysed and a Default-Icon will be selected depending on the detected kind of the file. The workbench will get this Default-Icon as the "real" Icon owing to the File. The advantage you get is a better optical representation of the kind of a File. Furthermore, you can set the Tooltypes of the single Default-Icons depending on the kind. So you can simply call a program for a file by double-clicking the Icon, e.g. a Textviewer or a Pictureviewer, displaying Archives or playing Music.

The analysis of the files will be done using the WhatIs.library, written by Sylvain Rougier and Pierre Carrette.

Since Version 1.10 also Disk Icons will be replaced on your wish, if a Default-Icon for the Disk exists.

1.3 requirements

1.2 Requirements

You have to have the following to use IconChief

- o AmigaOS 2.0 (37) or higher
- o WhatIs.library Version 3 or higher

1.4 installation

2.1 Installation

Before you start IconChief the WhatIs.library has to be installed. The WhatIs-Package can be found on Aminet and different PD-Series and contains a set of Default-Icons. The connection between Icons and Files is written in FileTypes, which is part of the WhatIs-Package, too. You can easily extend this file to fit it to your own use.

You can use any Icon as Default-Icon. Just change the entry in the FileTypes-File or set the Icon-Name to the one you want. The Icons have to be in the path defined by the Tooltype ICONPATH.

If the WhatIs-Package is installed, you can test IconChief like you are used to by starting via Workbench or Shell. For regular use I recommend to install IconChief in the SYS:WBStartup-Drawer, so it will be started automatically with each Systemstart.

1.5 usage

2.2 Usage

IconChief is a Commodity. The actual version does not have any Graphical User Interface. For now only some Tooltypes are supported, which can also be set using the CLI.

The only on runtime usable function is to activate or deactivate the functionality of the program, i.e. the faking of the icons. You can activate and deactivate this using the Exchange-Program (or one of the clones), like you are used to by other commodities.

To save an Default-Icon, so the file it was displayed for will have a real Icon in future, simply use the item "fix" of the Workbench-Menu.

The program always tries to get to know if it is desired to show the default Icons or not. In my knowledge there is only one case when IconChief fails. Because the Workbench remembers changes of the displaymode of a drawer, IconChief cannot get any information about this mode when a changed drawer is be opened again. If this happens using the menuitem "actualize" should help.

To exit IconChief, you can either use Exchange or start the program a second time. In both cases it is not always safe to remove the patches IconChief uses to fake the icons for Workbench, as other programs might have patched the same functions. In this case a requester will be displayed asking you, if you want to force removing or if you want IconChief to stay in memory. In the second case, the commodity-part will be removed and the patches will be disabled.

A FORCED DEINSTALLATION CAUSES IN MOST CASES A SYSTEMCRASH!

1.6 tooltypes

2.2.1 Tooltypes

The following Tooltypes are supported:

a) CX_PRIORITY: (Default-Value: CX_PRIORITY=0)

Sets the priority of the commodity

b) ICONPATH: (Default-Value: ICONPATH=ENV:SYS/)

This Tooltype defines the path where IconChief will look up the Default-Icons.

c) CLEANUP: (Default-Value: CLEANUP=NEVER)

Activating this Tooltype causes every drawer to be cleaned up after been opened. The effect is like using the Workbench-Menu "Clean Up" on that window.

There are five different modes you can set:

NEVER - Windows will never been cleaned up.
 EVERYTIME - Each opened window will be cleaned up.
 NOICON - Only drawers which contain no real icon, will be cleaned up.
 LIST - All the drawers which are mentioned in the File defined using the Tooltype CLEANUPLIST will be cleaned up on opening.
 LISTORNOICON - Every drawer which matches one or both criteria of values NOICON and LIST will be cleaned up.

d) CLEANUPLIST: (Default-Value: none)

With this Tooltype you define the file containing a list of pathes which corresponding Workbench-Drawer-Window will be cleaned up on opening. Each line describes one Path, which can also consist of AmigaDOS-Patterns.

On Devices you have to use the logical name, not the physical one (like "Ram Disk:" and not "Ram:")

An Example-File named "IconChief.CleanupList" is included in this package. The line "Ram Disk:#?" for example lets IconChief clean up all Drawers of the Ram Disk:.

e) FAKEDISKICONS: (Default-Value: off)

Setting this Tooltype causes IconChief to replace default disk-icons for disks with icons owing to the device, filesystem or diskname related to the disk. For a lack of the system, disk icons on MSDOS-Disks will no longer be found if this mode is activated.

Examples:

(i) A file called def_diskMSDOS in ENV:SYS/ will replace the default Icon for disks named MSDOS.

(ii) A file called `def_fsCrossDosFileSystem` will place this icon instead the default `CrossDosFileSystem` integrated one onto the WB.

f) `NODEEPCANLIST`: (Default-Value: none)

Here you have to define a file containing a list of pathes, disks and filesystems which will not be scanned in deep but light mode. So the speed is not slowed down when working on slow devices.

An Example-File named "`IconChief.NoDeepScanList`" is included. If activated, all disks in `DF0:` and those running under `CrossDosFileSystem` will only be scanned in light mode.

g) `NOEXECFAKE`: (Default-Value: off)

Setting this value causes IconChief not to fake icons for executable files.

This was implemented due to problems starting executables from workbench which have to be started from Shell.

h) `APPICON`: (Default-Value: off)

This Function will be activated by giving a name of an Icon which will appear as an `AppIcon` at the workbench where you can drop one or more files onto. For each of these files an Icon will be created using the `Default-Icon-Collection`.

Example:

Setting this Tooltype to `APPICON=IconChief` will cause an `AppIcon` with `IconChief.info` being the source.

IMPORTANT: When using relative pathnames the Icon will be looked up starting from the path you run the program of.

i) `PUTICONPATH`: (Default-Value: `ENV:puticons/`)

Using this Tooltype you can change the path where the `APPICON-Function` will look up `Default-Icons`. The given pathname can be similar to the one given in the Tooltype `ICONPATH`. Different pathnames allow to use different sets of Icons for faked Icons and with the `APPICON-Function` created `File-Icons`.

1.7 copyright

3.1 Copyright

IconChief is MAILWARE, i.e. if you use this program regularly you have to send me a message. This might as well be a letter, a postcard or an electronic mail. If you have some remarks to the program or want to make me a big gift you are most welcome ;o).

You can find my Address at the end of this Document.

For Developing this program I used the following tools

- o M2Amiga Modula 2 Development-System
© Copyright 1992 by A+L AG, Däderiz 61, 2540 Grenchen
- o GoldEd Release 3
© Copyright 1995 by Dietmar Eilert
- o PolyEd 2.2
© Copyright 1994/95 by Avalon UnLtd. (Robert Brandner)

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- o Amiga, AmigaDOS and Workbench are registered trademarks of
Commodore Amiga Inc.

1.8 redistribution

3.2 Redistribution

IconChief may be redistributed in unchanged form only. The choice of media is up to the Distributor. The commercial Distribution is forbidden!

1.9 disclaimer

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1.10 history

4.1 History

Revision 1.20 [sts] 21.12.95\12.03.96

- + - added AppIcon to create real from faked Icons
- + - added Tooltype to not fake Executables
- + - added Cleanup on ShowAll
- + - fixed enforcer hit occurring on disk insertion
- ` - fixed another enforcer hit on window-checking

Revision 1.10 [sts] 12.07.95\21.09.95

- + - fixed some enforcer hits
- + - added selective deep scan feature
- ` - added disk.info replacement

Revision 1.00 [sts] 29.06.95\29.06.95

- + - fixed a little bug eating memory
- ` - first public release

Revision 0.53 [sts] 09.06.95\13.06.95

- + - rewritten buggy Message-System
- + - added selective Cleanup
- ` - fixed Bug which caused the system to lock up from time to time

Revision 0.52 [sts] 15.05.95\02.06.95

- + - added sensitive Cleanup
- + - bugfix in icon-detection routine
- ` - trailing slash in ICONPATH-Value is no longer a must

Revision 0.51 [sts] 08.05.95\12.05.95

- ` - added ToolType CLEANUP

Revision 0.50 [sts] 03.05.95\03.05.95

- ` - new ToolType ICONPATH for setting path to find Icons

Revision 0.42 [sts] 03.05.95\03.05.95

- ` - bugfix: tried to remove patches, even if they were not installed

Revision 0.41 [sts] 06.04.95\06.04.95

- + - didn't clear the remembered iconlist correctly
- ` - assumes type of executables now by extension

Revision 0.40 [sts] 04.04.95\04.04.95

- ` - Added handling of removing patches safely

Revision 0.31 [sts] 04.04.95\04.04.95

- ` - Changed handling of actualizing the drawer

Revision 0.30 [sts] 02.04.95\03.04.95

- ` - Commodity-Support added

Revision 0.20 [sts] 31.03.95\01.04.95

- ` - GetMsg-Patch added
-

Revision 0.11 [sts] 07.03.95\14.03.95
`- small changes and optimizations

Revision 0.10 [sts] 09.02.95\23.02.95
`- initial revision

1.11 acknowledge

4.2 Acknowledgements

I want to say thank you to all the people who helped me directly or indirectly in developing this program and/or supported me in technical or mental ways (odered by appearance ;o):

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Eric van Velthooven
Mick Hohmann
Christoph Feck
Helmuth Ritzer
Osma Ahvenlampi
Stefan Thomas Pazourek

All those supporting Mailware. :o)

1.12 updates

4.3 Updates

The latest Version of IconChief can be found on Aminet. If a PD-Series publishes this program (and tells me) you can also get it there. If there is no other way you can also get it from me, but of course I do not want to spend a lot of money. So if you want it from me, send me an empty Floppy-Disk and the needed postage.

1.13 support

4.4 Support

Please send found errors, remarks to the program, questions or anything else, but at least the "I use it"-Message to:

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Germany

Or via e-mail (Internet) to:
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You can find me on IRC too:
Nick: eau
Frequently on channels #Amiga, #TheEnd and/or #AmigaGer
