

GhostBuster

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Chapter 1

GhostBuster

1.1 GhostBuster

Ghostbuster V2.0 by Matthew Allatt, June 2001.

Requires Workbench 3.5 or 3.9

What is GhostBuster?

Installation

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1.2 What is GhostBuster?

GhostBuster is a commodity that helps keep the Workbench screen clear of ghosted disk icons.

This is useful if there are music CDs inserted in your CD-ROM drive, or if you use CrossDOS and keep getting two icons on the screen for every disk you have inserted.

The new Workbench preferences can be used to hide these icons, but this also hides the icon if the disk you have inserted is valid. GhostBuster detects whether any selected disks are valid, displays an icon if so, otherwise hides the icon.

GhostBuster is a commodity which requires the new functionality provided by Workbench 3.5 and 3.9, and is 100% system legal.

This is version 2.0 of GhostBuster. This version features two workbench preference programs which replace the ones provided with Workbench 3.5 and 3.9. The main difference between the two programs is that the Hidden Devices list has been changed to show three options: Always Show, Show If Valid, Never Show.

Also included in the archive is a program called MakeGBCat. This is for the benefit of non-English-speaking Amiga users. The Workbench preferences require a new catalog to be built in order to add the three new messages shown above (Always Show, Show If Valid, Never Show) to a new catalog. This program makes building those catalogs easy.

1.3 Installation

Copy GhostBuster and icon into WBStartup, or add a line to your user-startup. If starting from WBStartup, make sure the DONOTWAIT tootype is set.

Copy the appropriate Workbench program version over the top of the existing SYS:Prefs/Workbench program, and open it.

Users who run workbench with a foreign language (not English) should read this section before continuing.

The new version of GhostBuster requires extra data to be written to the preferences output file, so set your preferences as you want them, and hit SAVE (or your foreign-language equivalent).

At this point, you should reboot your amiga.

For users who previously had version 1 installed, the DONOTSHOW tootype/argument is no longer required, and has been removed.

The icon provided has this tootype bracketed out, and provides an example of how to have more than one device listed as permanently hidden.

1.4 Known Problems

In some user's setups, disk insertions may not always be noticed until another disk has been inserted in another drive.

This has currently been traced to the time taken for the drives to validate themselves. By the time these processes have finished, GhostBuster has completed its routines that occur every time a disk has been inserted. There is a workaround built into GhostBuster to help resolve this problem.

This workaround involves holding up the disk insertion routines for a fixed amount of time defined by the DELAY tootype and argument.

The DELAY argument takes a value, which is measured in 1/50ths of a second, which is the amount of time to wait for these disks to validate.

eg. DELAY=25 will pause the program for half a second.

The systems that seem to cause problems are IDEfix and CrossDOS.

IDEfix should be fine with a DELAY=25. Your system may also work a lower value, depending on your hardware.

CrossDOS takes rather a long time to validate floppies, so a much larger delay is required.

Alternatively, try replacing CrossDOSFileSystem with fat95, available on Aminet, which is much faster, and accepts the Windows 95 file names (rather than just the old 8.3 ones)

Warning: Don't put too large a value in the DELAY parameter, as in the case of systems with CrossDOS, etc. installed, Workbench received two Disk inserted signals, so the DELAY factor in these cases is doubled. This does not normally apply to CD-ROM drives.

If you find any more problems which cannot be resolved using a DELAY, please contact the author.

1.5 For the Future...

Future plans are:

Not many, I'm afraid. I might redo the preferences, using MUI rather than Reaction.

Any bug fixes that anyone should report. That's about it, really... Unless anyone has any suggestions, in which case they should contact the author

1.6 Non-English Speakers

For anyone who wishes to keep their Workbench running in their native language, I have made a utility which will help you build a catalog file. This program runs from the shell only, and requires the prefs.catalog of the language you wish to convert.

The program has one argument, which is the name of the language you wish to build a catalog for, eg. "deutsch".

You will then be asked to enter three strings, one each for a translation of "Always show", "Show if valid", and "Never show".

For example:

```
New Shell process 8
8.HardBench:> MakeGBCat deutsch
```

```
Please enter the language equivalent of:  
Always Show >Immer  
Show If Valid >Wenn Gut  
Never Show >Niema1
```

(Apologies to German users, my German is rather rusty)
If this program has not been run, your preferences program will
be displayed in English.

Alternatively, with the cooperation of other users, you may be able
to download these catalog files from Aminet. In which case, they
should be copied as file:

```
Locale:Catalogs/<language>/sys/gbprefs.catalog
```

1.7 Little old me

GhostBuster was brought to you by Matthew Allatt.

Many thanks to Jim Brown for identifying the IDEfix and CrossDOS
problems (I use a PowerFlyer and fat95, and am immune from them!)

Also, thanks to Sam Thomas for helping design the GhostBuster Icon,
Kevin Twyman, Duncan Gow, Lewis Brunton, and Andrew Reed for their support,
and also not reporting any errors in the test versions I sent them.

If you have comments, ideas, bug reports, or a better Icon,
please EMail me at:

```
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Matthew Allatt.

1.8 Legal Stuff

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