

RawStartup

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Chapter 1

RawStartup

1.1 RawStartup documentation

Raw-Startup

Version 1.00	© by Michael Neuweiler 1996
5th Sept 1996	email: dolphin@zool.unizh.ch

Introduction	Why another startup controller ?
Copyright	Copyright and other conditions
Author	How to contact the author
Requirements	What you need to run
Installation	What is done during installation
Operation	How this thing works
Examples	Some examples
Updates	Where to find updates

1.2 Why another startup controller ?

Overview

RawStartup is a Startup-Sequence selector. You can define an individual startup-sequence and assign it to any key of your keyboard. This means you can have as many startup-sequences as you have keys :)

During the boot sequence you can press a key to select which configuration should be used. The main advantage of raw startup is that it produces absolutely no output - no text and no graphics. So it's ideal for those with monitors that can't display 15kHz modes.

Please refer to operation for further details.

Why another startup controller ?

Well, I've tried out almost all startup controllers available on the AmiNET but none of them satisfied my needs so I decided to write my own.

Two good reasons:

The problem with most of the other controllers is that they insist on some kind of output which might be neat but if you run your Amiga with a graphics card and a multisync monitor which isn't capable of displaying the 15kHz mode the best you will see is a distorted screen. To avoid this problem you always had to copy the EnvARC: files to the ram and run IPrefs before you could choose. But for some programs (like Shapeshifter) I want all the memory available and not fill the ram with some variables I don't need at the moment.

Even if they don't open a special gui they will open a CLI window and if you haven't run IPrefs before either you'll get bothered with a requester that says "Intuition would like to reset the workbench screen" (or something similar) as long as the window is open => no bootpicture can be showed or the monitor has to switch often between different frequencies which might shorten its lifespan.

Result:

So the result is a very "raw" program called RawStartup. All it will do while your amiga boots is to check if a key is pressed and if so it will try to use the according startup script as a default startup script. So if you don't press any key the last startup script you selected will be executed. That's it.

Future:

I don't know what else RawStartup should be able to do but one thing I will never do is including something that leads to graphical output (like password protection or whatsoever). RawStartup's main purpose is to serve users with graphics cards as a cheap but effectife boot selector.

1.3 Copyright and other conditions

Copyright and other conditions

Copyright:

Copyright © 1996 by Michael Neuweiler

This program is Freeware.

RawStartup may only be redistributed as complete archive with

all copyright notices left intact.
If RawStartup is used in another archive than AmiNET (incl. CD)
the author would like to be notified.

Waranty:

The author won't take any responsibility for any problems
caused by RawStartup. Although it has been tested it is possible that
something goes wrong and crashes your system or causes data loss.

1.4 How to contact the author

The Author

If you experience problems using RawStartup or have a suggestion
what could be included or if you just want to say how great you
think RawStartup is...

Michael Neuweiler	email: dolphin@zool.unizh.ch
Hauriweg 6	http://www.unizh.ch/~dolphin
CH-8038 Zürich	
Switzerland	

1.5 What you need to run RawStartup

Requirements

Computer: Amiga 500 - 4000T or Draco

Memory : 12kB should be enough :)

OS : Kickstart 2.1 or better

1.6 How to install RawStartup

Installation

Install: Simply double click on the Installer icon
and follow the instructions.

Manual: CD xxx:yyy/zzz ; xxx:yyy/zzz = location of the archive's ↔
contents

```
Copy RawStartup C:  
MakeDir S:RS  
Copy S:Startup-Sequence S:RS/Default  
Rename S:Startup-Sequence S:Startup-Sequence.orig
```

```
Copy S/Startup-Sequence S:  
Copy S/RS/#? S:RS
```

So, as you might have noticed we use a new S:Startup-Sequence that just starts C:SetPatch and C:RawStartup. Your original Startup-Sequence will be copied to S:RS/Default. So whenever you press a key during startup and RawStartup can't find the according startup file in S:RS/ it will use S:RS/Default - your original Startup-Sequence.

1.7 How this thing works

Operation

It isn't that complicated as you might think. Here's how it works:

The modified S:Startup-Sequence will launch C:RawStartup as the first command during the boot sequence. RawStartup checks if at the moment of its execution a key is being pressed. Now two things can happen:

1) No key is being pressed:

RawStartup does nothing and the script S:RS-Startup will be executed. This means, the latest selected configuration will be used.

2) A key is being pressed:

RawStartup checks if a file named S:RS/Startup_y.x exists. Where y is the number of the row and x the number of the column of the pressed key. See example to see what I mean.

Now, if this file exists, RawStartup will copy it to S:RS-Startup which will be executed. If it doesn't exist RawStartup will copy S:RS/Default to S:RS-Startup.

So if you press a key which has no script assigned the default script will be used.

Now RawStartup's job is done. All that's left to do is to execute S:RS-Startup.

If you have a look at the example scripts you'll see immediately what possibilities RawStartup offers.

1.8 How does this thing with the key numbers work ?

As you can see in S:RS/ there exist four example scripts called

```
Startup_1.3 , Startup_1.4 , Startup_1.5 , Startup_1.6
```

The first number represents the number of the key's row. In these examples it is always "1" which means the row from "ESC" to "F10".

The second number represents the number of the key's column. For Startup_1.3 this is "3" which means the row "F2", "2", "W", "A", "Y", "SPACE".

You always start to count with the "ESC" key, which is 1.1

So the provided example scripts are assigned to "F2", "F3", "F4" and "F5". I deliberately left "F1" unassigned so if you press "F1" you will get the default startup (S:RS/Default).

Some other examples :

```
Key          Filename in S:RS/
=====
"RETURN"    : Startup_3.14
"ENTER"     : Startup_5.20
"L"         : Startup_4.11
"CAPS LOCK" : Startup_4.2
"RIGHT ALT" : Startup_6.5
"T"         : Startup_3.6
"G"         : Startup_4.7
```

So eventhough "T" appears to be in the same column "G" it has a different column number because the TAB spans two keys (CTRL and CapsLock) !

1.9 Where to find updates of RawStartup

Where to find updates of RawStartup

In case there will be any update you will find them in
aminet/util/boot/ and maybe on

<http://www.unizh.ch/~dolphin/>
