

TimePiece

The Amiga Compiler

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COLLABORATORS

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

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Chapter 1

TimePiece

1.1 Introduction

This is TimePiece v1.4.

Title Bar clock, memory status, on-line status, application launcher...

©1996, Gary Greenhill.

Workbench 3.0 only.

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NB: If you have downloaded this program, please EMail me to say whether you will use it or not, and why, along with any other suggestion, comment or advice.

// //1200, 850MB HD, +Highdensity drive, +68030/50MHz.

\X/ EMAIL: gary@infernaldemon.co.uk - Gary Greenhill

1.2 Distribution Disclaimer

I am not responsible or liable for any use or abuse of this program or distribution.

1.3 About the distribution

TimePiece v1.4 ©1995, Gary Greenhill.

Created using FREEWARE DICE compiler © by Mathew Dillon and FROZENFISH includes.

TimePiecePrefs GUI created with the excellent GadToolsBox © by Jaba Development.

This package is FREEWARE provided the distribution remains intact:

- TimePiece
- TimePiece-Handler
- TimePiecePrefs
- TimePiece.guide
- TimePiece.menu
- Install

Thanks to J. Waland and B. Howell for some Beta testing.

The TimePiece-Handler is based on WBStart-Handler by Stefan Becker.

Double thanks to Tinic Urou (tinic@tinic.mayn.sub.de) for help with the graphical code.

This guide was created with gmake, my amiga guide compiler.

1.4 About the author

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Software also by me:

fw_quotes.lha: Add true 66 99 quotes via rexx to final writer.

TimePiece.lha: Menu based application launcher,

shows memory, user configured clock,

on-line time etc.

gmake.lha: Amiga Guide compiler, like makefile -

used to make this!

1.5 How to install the files

An installer script is provided which uses the standard commodore installer program. This program puts TimePiece into SYS:WBStartup, TimePiecePrefs into SYS:prefs, TimePiece.menu (My example file) into s: and also allows you to copy this AmigaGuide file.

1.6 How to use the package

TimePiece may be run from Workbench or Command Line and in both cases reads the menu file S:TimePiece.menu. This file contains all the menu data, commands, filetypes and preferences.

The main features are:

- Display: TimePiece will display the time, free memory, on-line time.
- Menus: TimePiece can launch commands by pull down menus, defined by the user.
- AppWindow: When Icons are dropped onto the timepiece menu they will launch a user defined program depending on the filetype. The default program is MultiView.

Other features and facts are:

- Only 1 copy of TimePiece may run at a time. If a second copy is run the original will ask if you want to quit.
- Clicking on the far left of TimePiece will bring up a quit requester.
- Clicking on the far right of TimePiece will send WorkBench to back.
- Clicking almost on the far right of TimePiece will send it back/front.
- The user can define the colours of text/mem fore/backgrounds.
- The positioning of the graphical memory display depends on how 'nice' fonts are.. Topaz works well,.. others might need the display to be configured by the user in the prefs.
- The font used by TimePiece is the Screen Font as set by Font Prefs.
- TimePiece is exactly 2 pixels larger than the standard title bar, for those with an interest in such things.
- Can be used in conjunction with utilities giving 'full workbench' to give a menubar at the bottom of workbench instead of the top.

1.7 History

V1.4 Cleared up a few bugs.

V1.32 Not a lot.

V1.31 Added feature to TimePiecePrefs

Smarten up font handling.

V1.3 No exits cleaner (NO memory loss if no graphics).

Got rid of that enforcer hit.

Can now run as if launched from WorkBench.. but might be 3.0 only.

TimePiecePrefs automatically updates TimePiece.

Have I metioned user can now choose default AppProgram?

V1.271 I _think_ I fixed a slight clash with MUI when doing GFX.

V1.27 Now can take a 'picture' of the workbench and use it as a backdrop.

V1.26 TimePiecePrefs now `_is_ COMPLETE!` :)

Didn't save file-types properly, now does.

Redid the file-type handling in TimePiece. Now works a lot better.

V1.25 TimePiecePrefs now `COMPLETE!`

TimePiece now uses `InitBitMap` instead of `AllocBitMap` so should work with 2.04, but I can't be sure.

V1.24 User can now flick between old and new style. New style crashes on older machines.

Included `EXAMPLE` prefs editor. Not complete yet,.. saves to ram.

There is a hidden enforcer hit.. is known and will be dealt with.

V1.23 Hey.. I've just discovered that I had a copy of Enforcer from an Amiga mag.. The results were scary but have now been dealt with (heh!).

NO enforcer hits (unless I forgot to turn it on :)

V1.21 User can now choose the colours of text, mem, fore/back ground.

Restricted depth control to avoid too many clashes with `MagicMenu`.

V1.2 Re-Write of the interface.. now uses a proper (buffered) graphic.

Commands now can have individual stacks.

V1.1 Re-Write to use gad-menus; like a pillock I didn't use them before.

Now an APP window; will launch programs depending on their filetype!

User defined file-typing both by file name and content.

Re-Write of `SystemTag..` to have decent output `None/CON/and KCON`.

Added menus `Hide timePiece` and `Show TimePiece`.

Menus can now use menu bars.

Menu Items may now have user defined keys. (not hot keys YET..)

V1.0 Alternate memory display.

Installer script.

V1.0B Fully font sensitive.

Complete auto window and menu resizing.

Arguments from command line.

Re-Write to make full use of linked lists,.. no array limits now.

Correctly launches applications, including ``cd'` to apps directory.

Warns user if command does not exist.

Unlimited (except by the OS) use of menus, items and sub items.

User can now define the clock format.

Full commodity.

Include prefs in the menu file.

V0.62 Corrected the program launcher.

Uses default font.

V0.6 First public release.

1.8 The format of the clock

The time format works like printf() in C, and is as follows:

%a abbreviated weekday name (e.g. Sun)
 %A full weekday name (e.g. Sunday)
 %b abbreviated month name (e.g. Dec)
 %B full month name (e.g. December)
 %c local date and time representation
 %d day of the month (01-31)
 %H hour (00-23)
 %I hour (00-12)
 %j day of the year (001-366)
 %m month (01-12)
 %M minute (00-59)
 %p local equivalent of AM or PM
 %S second (00-59)
 %U week number of the year (00-53); Sunday as first week day
 %w weekday (0-6, Sunday is 0)
 %W week number of the year (00-53); Monday as first week day
 %x local date representation
 %X local time representation
 %y year without century (00-99)
 %Y year with century prefix (e.g. 1995)
 %Z timezone name, if any
 %% the % character

where "%I:%M:%S %p" is the default.

EG: "%A %d - %H:%M" may produce: Sunday 03 - 23:11

The current maximum length of text this may produce is 20 characters.

1.9 SLIP AmiTCP

If the user is using AMITcp TimePiece looks to see if the slip enviroment is Online. The default is SLIP_ENV="ENV:slip0state". If you do not use a SLIP device this feature is transparent, it only comes into operation when the state is Online.

1.10 Command Line Usage

TimePiece takes the following command line arguments:

DATE_FORMAT=FORMAT/K,SLIP_ENV=LOCATION/K,GFXMEM/S,POSITION/S,HIGHGFX/S:

GFXMEM

Swaps the default memory appearance.

POSITION

Swaps the default position of TimePiece from the top or bottom of the screen.

DATE_FORMAT=

User defined date format. The default is DATE_FORMAT="%I:%M:%S %p".

SLIP_ENV=

If the user is using AMItcp it looks to see if the slip enviroment is Online. The default is SLIP_ENV="ENV:slip0state".

HIGHGFX

Swaps the default front end style between advanced gfx and basic window.

1.11 Using TimePiecePrefs

TimePiecePrefs provides a GUI to edit the features of TimePiece. It contains:

- A menu editor. TimePiece launches application through menus.
- A file type editor. TimePiece acts as a AppWindow and launches programs depending on their filetype.
- A display editor. The appearance of TimePiece may be somewhat altered.

When loaded it will display a main window,. showing which feature you are editing as well as allowing save and quit.

Note that if TimePiece is running and prefs are saved it will auto update.

1.12 ..Menus

The menu prefs are in the following format:

Menu Item Command

Commands belong to Items, Items belong to Menus.

If a menu is selected the window acts as an AppWindow and can take make auto-command-menus.

The features are `_should_` be fairly obvious when you actually try the prefs prog.

1.13 ..File Types

The filetype editor allows for two types match. The are simple but cover nearly everything:

DATA

This will look at the first few bytes for a data match.

Filename

This will look at the first and last part of a filename for a match.

1.14 ..Display

The display editor allows you to edit the following:

It should be fairly obvious what does what.

TimePiece will guess at the positioning if the graphical mem display, but it may be inaccurate, if so you may specify the positions.

The Slip File is the ENV: file containing the Online/Offline state. This feature is only effective (and is invisible otherwise) if you use AmiTCP.

The Date Format is, as it says the format of the date.. How to customise this is elsewhere in this guide.

The better display will change the type of graphics.

The Take WB Backdrop will copy the workbench backdrop and use it as a backdrop.

Default App is the default AppWindow-filetype application.

Play around! :)