

DOSPrefs

COLLABORATORS

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REVISION HISTORY

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Chapter 1

DOSPrefs

1.1 DOSPrefs Main Help

DOSPrefs is a small commodity with three functions:

1. Control the "Wildstar"-flag of the Amiga OS 2.0+ dos.library.
2. Control the "Noclick"-flag of the Amiga OS 2.0+ trackdisk.device.
3. Provide an all new "Unixdirs"-feature.

These functions can be controlled when DOSPrefs is started by Tooltypes, or at runtime by Intuition(tm)-menus.

Furthermore, DOSPrefs is localized, using the locale.library (requiring Workbench 2.1+) to adapt to your preferred language, and provides a context-sensitive help system with AmigaGuide(tm) (requiring amigaguide.library V34+). (Simply press "Help" !)

1.2 DOSPrefs ToolTypes

When DOSPrefs is started from the Workbench(tm), it evaluates the tooltypes of its icon; when it is started from the CLI, it evaluates the commandline arguments (the recognized Parameters are in both cases the same). The parameters recognized by DOSPrefs are summarized in the following template:

CX_PRIORITY/N/K,CX_POPKEY/K,CX_POPUP/K,PUBSCREEN/K,WILDSTAR/K,UNIXDIRS/K,NOCLICK/K

CX_PRIORITY (default: 0): This is the priority for the commodities event handling mechanism.

CX_POPKEY (default: lalt d): This is the hotkey that causes DOSPrefs to show its interface. (By the way: starting DOSPrefs a second time will have the same effect as pressing the hot key; the first DOSPrefs will pop up and the second will terminate immediately.)

CX_POPUP (default: yes): This determines, if DOSPrefs is to show its

interface on program startup.

PUBSCREEN (no default): This is the name of the public screen on which DOSPrefs is to open its interface. If this parameter is not specified or the given screen cannot be found, DOSPrefs opens its interface on the default public screen.

WILDSTAR (default: yes): This determines, if DOSPrefs is to set the wildstar flag of the dos.library on startup.

UNIXDIRS (default: yes): This determines, if DOSPrefs is to install the unixdirs-patch on startup.

NOCLICK (no default): This determines, for which floppy drives DOSPrefs sets the noclick-flags on startup. You have to list the drives separated by "|", e.g. "DF1:", "DF0:|DF1:|DF2:".

CAUTION: If an empty drive clicks even if you have set the noclick flag for this drive, unset the flag immediately. Your disk drive may be damaged otherwise.

1.3 DOSPrefs Main Menu

The menubar of DOSPrefs has two menus:

- Project
- Settings

1.4 DOSPrefs Project Menu

The "Project" menu has the following items:

- Save
- About
- Enable
- Disable
- Hide
- Quit

1.5 DOSPrefs Settings Menu

The "Settings" menu has the following items:

- WildStar
- UnixDirs
- NoClick

1.6 DOSPrefs Save Settings

This item saves the current settings.

1.7 DOSPrefs About

This item shows a nice, short copyright message. ;-)

1.8 DOSPrefs Enable

This item brings DOSPrefs to the active state. If it is already active, this item is ghosted.

1.9 DOSPrefs Disable

This item brings DOSPrefs to the inactive state, if possible. If it is already inactive, this item is ghosted.

This operation may fail if the "unixdirs"-patch cannot be undone.

1.10 DOSPrefs Hide

This item hides the user interface of DOSPrefs. (Clicking on the closegadget has the same effect.) To make the interface visible again, press the hot key or use the commodities exchange program.

1.11 DOSPrefs Quit

This item terminates DOSPrefs, if possible.

This operation may fail if the "unixdirs"-patch cannot be undone.

1.12 DOSPrefs WildStar

This item toggles the wildstar-flag of the dos.library. If the flag is set, "*" will be recognized as an abbreviation for "#?" in search patterns.

1.13 DOSPrefs UnixDirs

This item enables the unixdirs-patch of the dos.library. What does this patch do ? It allows the use of the special directory names ".." and "." like under UNIX (thus the name of the function).

".." represents the parent-directory of the current directory (like "/"). So "../blabla" is identical to "/blabla", etc.

"." is the current directory. Thus you can say "copy ../blabla/*.c ..".

Starting with version 3.0 of DosPrefs, the UnixDirs mechanism has been extended:

You can now change the style of the pathname translation by setting the local environment variable "PathStyle". Only the processes that have this variable set are affected.

If you set "PathStyle" to "Amiga", the pathname translation is completely disabled for this process.

If you set "PathStyle" to "Unix", in addition to the "." and ".." translation, path names starting with "/" are translated like ixemul.library-using programs do, e.g.:

```
/usr/archive -> usr:archive
/local/bin   -> local:bin
/foo//bar    -> foo:bar      !!
```

In addition to that, two special translations are activated:

```
/dev/null    -> NIL:
/dev/tty     -> CONSOLE:
```

ATTENTION: As there is no equivalent to the unix root directory "/", and in order to enhance compatibility, the path "/" still means the parent of the current directory !

Any other value of PathStyle or not setting it at all will give the default behaviour (only . and .. translation).

NOTE: Due to the nature of library patches, it may not be possible to unpatch the dos.library, because a) the patched functions are in use or b) someone has patched again some of the patched functions after DOSPrefs. DOSPrefs will detect these conditions and put up a requester allowing you to try again to unpatch the dos.library or canceling the operation.

1.14 DOSPrefs NoClick

This item has four subitems labeled "DF0:" to "DF3:", that allow you to set the noclick-flag individually for each of your disk drives. If a disk drive does not exist, its subitem is disabled.

CAUTION: If an empty drive clicks even if you have set the noclick flag

for this drive, unset the flag immediately. Your disk drive may be damaged otherwise.