

# **Finder**

Chris Jones

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	<i>TITLE :</i> Finder		
<i>ACTION</i>	<i>NAME</i>	<i>DATE</i>	<i>SIGNATURE</i>
WRITTEN BY	Chris Jones	March 26, 2025	

**REVISION HISTORY**

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# Chapter 1

## Finder

### 1.1 main

Finder V3.00 Help

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## 1.5 introduction

Finder is an easy to use, powerful file finding utility. The user supplies Finder with a path (i.e. a Volume or a Directory) and a pattern (i.e. a filename or a partial name and wildcards e.g. foo#?). Finder will use this information to search the Volume/Directory and any sub-directories for any files matching the supplied pattern. Any that are found are displayed in the window with their full path. When the last file has been found the number of file found is presented.

The program is based upon 'Finder V1.00' by Toby Simpson which appeared as a C programming tutorial in Amiga Shopper.

I didn't like the GUI he had used and so I decided to change it and generally spice the program up a bit to test my newly found C programming skills!

ArcAngel is part of the continuing commitment to the Amiga by Dynamic Software. Please check out our other releases:

- Finder V3 - File finding utility
- FMSGui - ArcAngel's predecessor (only handles DMS files)
- CyberBar - User configurable tool bar for launching Internet Programs
- MUIBSD - Simple requester to prevent accidental loading of NetBSD

The archives, and support, is all available from:

<http://www.calweb.com/~aces/index.html>

The GUI for Finder V3.00 was created using MUIBuilder by Eric Totel (a program I heartily recommend to all MUI minded programmers, but maybe wait until Version 3 is available!). Finder V3.00 was written using Cygnus Ed V3.5 and compiled with SAS/C V6.57. Sadly, with this release, re-compilation support for DICE has been removed (due to MUI related problems).

Finder V3.00 is FREEWARE. Copy it to all your mates (please!)

## 1.6 gettingstarted

Finder can be run from either CLI or Workbench.

From CLI:

Simply type the path and name of Finder and it will run and present it's window. To run Finder in the background (i.e. so it returns a CLI prompt immediately), type "run <NIL: >NIL: <path>/Finder" (<path> is the path of the Finder executable).

Note: any program which is self detaching from the CLI does so illegally. This may cause problems with newer versions of Kickstart. Using "run" is safer and easier because it requires no extra programming (i.e. SegList splitting, etc).

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From Workbench:

Simply double click on Finder's icon and it will run and present it's window.

If you wish Finder to not open it's window on startup, there is no tooltip, as in previous releases. Instead, use the MUI prefs to set the iconify type to "Menu" and set it to iconify at startup.

## 1.7 installation

The installation of Finder has become a bit more complicated than the early releases. I strongly recommend you use the provided Install script. If, however, you are a die hard Amiga user and want to do everything by hand, these are the steps you need to perform:

- Copy the Finder executable somewhere
- Copy FinderV3.guide to HELP:
- Copy FinderLogo.iff to the same drawer as the main executable
- Make sure you have MUI!

Finder is then installed.

## 1.8 requirements

Finder V3.00 requires Kickstart 3.0 or above and MUI V3.8+.

Finder V3.00 was compiled on an A1200, 16Meg Fast RAM with 1.2Gb Western Digital 3.5" IDE Hard Drive using SAS/C V6.57 with Kickstart 3.1 Includes and MUI 3.8 includes.

NOTE: FINDER V3.00 HAS ONLY BEEN TESTED ON KICKSTART 3.0. IT WILL NOT WORK WITH ANYTHING LESS AND CANNOT BE ASSUMED TO WORK WITH ANYTHING HIGHER (IT IS, HOWEVER 100% SYSTEM COMPLIANT AND SO IS EXPECTED THAT IT WILL BE FULLY COMPATIBLE WITH ANY FUTURE 680X0 BASED AMIGAS)..

If you own a machine with anything less than OS3.0, UPGRADE text}. It costs less than £100 Sterling to upgrade to OS3.1 and it is worth it. Or, you should upgrade to A1200 or A4000 now they are on sale again.

You will however be forgiven if you are unable to obtain an OS3.1 Upgrade Kit, as Village Tronic is currently involved in a law suit with Amiga International over problems with payment for the kits. As such, the stocks of the kits are currently in VERY short supply, and quite high demand!

I have no plans to EVER support <OS3.0 as I see that as encouraging people NOT to upgrade. If people are still using 1.3 A500s the Amiga market is dead. If we all use AGA machines (ideally accelerated) then software developers can make more CPU intensive programs. (Gripe over!).

## 1.9 usage

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## Finder V3 Gadgets

- Close Window (Top Left) - Closes the window and exits
- Files found (Listview) - Shows all of the files found which match the given pattern in the given path.
- Find gadget (Bottom left) - This will begin a search of the chosen path with the pattern provided and display the results in the Listview.
- Quit gadget (Bottom left) - This will quit the program.
- Search drawer (Bottom right) - This is the text field in which you can type the path you want Finder to search. Also, there is a small gadget which will cause an ASL requester to appear. Please note, this requester is currently NOT directories only as it should be, so don't select any files!
- NOTE: You can use the checkmark gadgets to make the search case-sensitive or not and recursive or not (default is case insensitive and recursive).
- Pattern (Bottom right) - This is the text field in which you can type the pattern you want Finder to search with.

Note: Only standard AmigaDOS wildcards are supported, not '\*.\*' or others unless you use a hack like WildStar (or similar).

- About (menu) - This will open an about requester. Click on Continue to return.
- AboutMUI (menu) - This will open the MUI about requester.
- Save (menu) - This will pop open an ASL requester allowing you to save the list of files to a text file.
- Hide (menu) - This will close all Finder windows and open an AppIcon/Menu as setup in the MUI prefs.
- Quit (menu) - This will quit Finder.

NOTE: The List printing option is as yet unfinished. Sorry!

## Aborting the search

Currently, it is possible to abort a search, but only by sending Finder's task a Ctrl-C signal. This is fine if you run Finder from CLI as you can just press 'Ctrl C', but the problem is that Wb does not provide an easy way to send Ctrl-C signals to processes. You will need an

external program which is capable of sending such a signal. A good example of such a program is Commander, part of the Executive system by Petri Norland.

NOTE: This aborting system WILL change. I intend to implement an extra window which will appear when a search is in progress showing a busy bar and presenting an 'Abort' button.

## 1.10 history

### Finder History

V 3.00r2

Public release

- Complete re-write since V3.00r1 removing some annoying bits of code and adding functionality to the search.
- As far as I can see, Finder is 100% Enforcer hit free.
- The list printing routine is currently disabled as it does not function correctly yet. This will be fixed for V3.01
- The keyfile code has been removed as it got a bit annoying. I only put it in because I wanted to know how many people actually used Finder. The response was very healthy, so I am continuing the development with this fantastic new version.
- Added options to save/print the list of files. The printing routine is not yet 100% ok, so it is disabled in this release. Does anyone really want it? If so, mail me.

The list saver is now quite sophisticated - You can use an ASL requester to choose the file you want to save the list to. If that file already exists, you can either Overwrite the existing file, Append it, or Cancel Not bad huh?

V 3.00

Private Beta Release - Internal

- Total GUI replacement, moving totally to the MUI system by Stefan Stuntz. Because of this, Finder is now a commodity, has an AREXX port, is re-sizable and all the other things the registered users from the previous release wanted!
- Added GUI (but not internal code) for some user-definable options, like turning the search from recursive to not, and case sensitive.
- As of 24.03.97 Finder is considered to be Enforcer Hit free. It doesn't yet function, but it won't crash!

V 2.07

Public Release - Web Site only

- Not much of a new version for anyone except the registered users (thanks guys - you know who you are!).

Finder will now tell you who it is registered to in the About requester. If you are not registered (why not?) it will say "Unregistered" (Many thanks to Dr. David Hamill for some help with this).

## V 2.06

## Public Release - Aminet

- Only added the Keyfile checking routine. PLEASE REGISTER FINDER. Especially since IT IS FREE!
- Fixed a silly bug with library opening (icon.library was closed twice).

## V 2.05

## Public Release - CUCD III

- MAJOR bug fix. Up until now, Finder used a simple loop for it's IDCMP handler. This is a fairly standard way of doing things and is the default generated method with GadToolsBox, but it does have a VERY nasty side-effect - It uses ALL available CPU time so it can do the loop as fast as possible. There is a much better way of doing it. That is to wait until a message is recieved rather than assume one has and start trying to figure out what it is (usually nothing). This 'new' method was already being used by the AppMenu handler (the code came straight from the RKM examples, I hadn't really looked at it). The added command is:  
`"WaitPort(FinderWnd->UserPort);"`  
Extremely simple and very irritating, but at least now Finder won't swallow your CPU everytime you run it!  
I am considering putting a counter into an old version of Finder to work out the average number of times it ran the loop unsuccessfully. Maybe this could be the start of a new benchmark!
- Totally new error handling system. Finder now uses a CON: window to present any errors and a solution to the user.
- The ListView has a new feature specific to OS3.0+ which is that you can select items in it. Doing this will have no effect on the program, but it provides a useful way of remembering a particular file name/path.
- Cleared up an interesting problem with the stack. Finder was allocating too much stack and would cause the machine to hang on a long search. This has been solved by using dynamic stack code (a dice compiler option).
- Oh dear. We have a little problem. I now own my Blizzard 1230-IV (with 8Mb SIMM) and hence have an MMU. I have tested Finder with Enforcer and discovered at least four Enforcer hits.  
They seem to be involved with opening and closing the window (a problem with GadToolsBox?).  
Unfortunately, I have absolutely no idea what the hell the Enforcer output means! So I can't debug it. Sorry if these hits make your machine crash, but unless somebody explains to me what I am supposed to do they will have to stay there!
- Tested again with CodeWatcher. Seems to be that some allocated memory is not being freed, but I can't find it (a compiler error?). Most of it claims to be ROM space (huh?).

## V 2.04

Not released

- Finder will now open on the default public screen, not Workbench. (most users will not notice any difference as Workbench is usually the default public screen, but if you use DOpus 5+, it might not be).
- When the window is re-opened (e.g. after zooming or AppMenu), the list is not cleared.
- Major bug fix. I have finally found the cause of the silly Listview bug. I was initialising the list as soon as the search was over so any names not being displayed were 'forgotten'. Boy do I feel stupid!
- Cleaned up the source and moved some functions around to make it easier to recompile using GadToolsBox (see ReadMe in the Source drawer)
- Tested with CodeWatcher (I can't get easy access to an MMU for Enforcer to use because the Blizzard A1230-IV is so bloody difficult to get hold of! They are being sold before even being made!).

V 2.03

Not released

- Added busy pointer while search is happening. (buttons pressed with a busy pointer will be activated when the normal pointer returns).
- Listview bug evades me yet again (AAAAAARRRGH!)

V 2.02

Beta release

- Added option (via Tooltypes) to put Finder in the 'Tools' menu `_WITHOUT_` opening the GUI (can therefore be used from the WBStartup drawer easily)
- Still can't find Listview bug.

V 2.01

First public Release (AUI coverdisk 82 - May '96)

- Tested with Enforcer (seems OK so Listview bug must be a 'legal' bug!).
- Added AppMenu support.
- Cleaned up code a bit.
- Can't find Listview bug.

V 2.00

Not released

- GUI updated from Finder v1.00 by Toby Simpson.
- Search routines revised.
- Bugged to hell!

## 1.11 credits

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Finder V3.00 by Chris Jones  
Help from Dr. Hamill  
'Poking' from Dave Michael  
Finder V1.00 by Toby Simpson  
CygnusEd by Cygnus Software  
SAS/C by SAS Institute  
MUIBuilder by Eric Totel  
MUI by Stefan Stuntz  
Amiga by Commodore-Amiga

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Imdad Shah and David Ward for very kindly including Finder V2.01 on an Amiga User International coverdisk. I didn't expect them to, but they did. Cheers guys! Sorry it was bugged!

Matt Bettinson deserves a mention too, for putting the much less bugged V2.05 on CUCD III. Thanks Fingers you slapper!

Also, thanks to Thomas Frieden of DIgital DIMensions for his excellent utility "AssignPrefs". Some sections of the code for Finder are based on his code (↔ especially the reading of Tooltypes which is nigh on impossible if you don't own RKMs).For ↔ this reason, I have included full source to Finder and filled it with comments so that anybody who wants to use my code can (please do).

Last and VERY definitely NOT least, I would like to say a VERY big thank you to ↔ all of the wonderful guys who registered Finder. They were all very helpful and made some good suggestions which may or may not make it into future versions depending on ↔ how well the rest of my C programming uni course goes!

## 1.12 author

Please send all bug reports, comments, suggestions, A4000Ts, etc. to:

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WWW: <http://www.calweb.com/~aces/finder.htm>

E-mail: [aces@calweb.com](mailto:aces@calweb.com) (due to change soon)  
[ee61cj@ee.surrey.ac.uk](mailto:ee61cj@ee.surrey.ac.uk) (may change soon)  
[Ng@death-star.com](mailto:Ng@death-star.com) (will NOT change)

PGP key:

-----BEGIN PGP PUBLIC KEY BLOCK-----  
Version: 2.6.2i

```
mQCNAzOoqIgAAAEENrxBsVPpTQxvXzJg07sAtJ4PP24+4HxT6jOwFNBF2m+ao5y
L+wwLJ3d9h8JKlZqBqcO4t7p4ZJjYUNLTQqWDGm/6rWLT+n2fSZ84LRKjN1lswPe
qI7gtb4E9MjFW5UIzPW7HI3G741gjrlc8Mc3O6qZilzBXjArWnNidiBd47wFAAUR
tB1DaHJpcyBKb251cyA8YWNlc0BjYWx3ZWUuY29tPg==
=PtMD
-----END PGP PUBLIC KEY BLOCK-----
```

Personal Plea: If anyone knows how to calculate the CPU usage % (as in Driectory Opus 4) PLEASE mail me with the code (not using sysinfo.library from Executive).

Thank you.

## 1.13 todo

NOTE: Finder will be getting regular updates, but they will only be available from the Finder web site (<http://www.calweb.com/~aces/finder.htm>). Only major releases will be on Aminet (it is unlikely there will be anymore major versions, but I will keep Finder going through small updates).

If I get feedback from you (and if I can be bothered), these are some of the things I would like to see appear in Finder:

- Ability to abort the search (useful for searching CDs!)
- Localisation (anybody want to translate for me?).
- Control case sensetivity/directory recursion.
- Option to search any assign 'add's (e.g. if FONTS: points to more than one directory) ↔

Example-script:

```
$VER:startup-sequence v39.29
assign FONTS: SYS:Fonts
assign FONTS: Work:Fonts ADD
```

Currently, Finder would only search SYS:Fonts. If I can work out how to do it, ↔  
it  
would also search Work:Fonts

If you would like to get involved with updating Finder, please contact me at the address in the Contacting the Author section.

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