

UNPacker

Ralph Torchia

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REVISION HISTORY

NUMBER	DATE	DESCRIPTION	NAME

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Chapter 1

UNPacker

1.1 UNPacker Documentation

UNPacker

User Documentation

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Make life a little bit easier in extracting, viewing, and testing all the different types of archives with just one command.

CONTENTS:

DISTRIBUTION
INTRODUCTION
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TECHNICAL INFO
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1.2 Distribution

DISTRIBUTION:

UNPacker Copyright © 1993-1995 by Ralph Torchia

UNPacker is a freely distributable, copyrighted piece of software. You do not have to pay money to use it, and may be upload wherever you choose, but you are not allowed to sell UNPacker for profit, or include UNPacker on a disk which is sold for profit, without the author's (Ralph Torchia) written permission. Permission is given for UNPacker to be included on Aminet CDs and on Fred Fish CDs.

If you use UNPacker, then please consider sending in a donation of whatever you see fit (e.g. \$5 US, a nice sports car, etc. :-), or at least a postcard or E-Mail letting me know how you like the program. Send bug-reports/suggestions/donations to:

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1.3 Introduction

INTRODUCTION:

UNPacker is a small utility that is used in unpacking of compressed archives. It will automatically identify the compression used and then open a shell window and decompress the archive using an external archiving program. UNPacker should support any external compression program.

I wrote UNPacker because I disliked having to use the shell or some interface program (e.g. DMS-Win, DOpus, SID, etc.) just to decompress files. I also wanted to decompress files by using a single command, without having to worry what compressor to use.

Using UNPacker, a user can unpack archives from the Workbench, shell, or any program that acts as a interface to the Workbench or shell, in an intuitive and easy fashion.

1.4 Requirements

REQUIREMENTS:

UNPacker requires the use of Amiga OS 2.04 or greater and archiving programs such as Lha, UnZip, DMS, etc. You may find these programs on most BBS' or on Aminet if you do not already have them.

1.5 Installation

INSTALLATION:

Just double-click on the Install icon and follow the instructions!

You may want to modify the UNP.prefs file before you do this using a text editor such as TurboText, CED, etc. This file contains the default settings that UNPacker will issue to decompress archives. The prefs file is commented to help in editing it. For further information about the format of the file see below.

Comments and commands can be placed in any order. As many as 50 commands can be added for the varying amount of compression methods that exist. Comments are placed in the prefs file to aid in modifying it to your preferences.

The UNP.prefs file has the following form:

```
-----  
# This is a comment
```

F:

Extension,Header,Offset,Cmd,Ext,View,Test,Destination

D:Extension,Offset,Cmd,Ext,View,Text,Destinations,Ext-Opt

R:

Left,Top,Width,Height

A:

Path

S:

Default Switch

C:

Output-Window

W:

Requester?,Auto Close?

1.6 Comment

Any line that begins with the number character (#) is ignored and can be used to insert comments into the file.

1.7 File Archivers

Used to designate the beginning of a command line for archives consisting of files.

1.8 Disk Archivers

Used to designate the beginning of a command line for full disk archives.

1.9 Archiver Filename Extension

The extension of the particular type of compression.

1.10 Archive File ID Header

The identifying header for a particular type of compression.

1.11 ID Header Offset

The location in the file of the header.

1.12 Archive Command

The path and filename of the program to use for decompressing an archive.

For disk based archivers (D: designation) three parameters must also be placed within this command string:

@D = destination(s)

@F = filename

@S = switch(s) for extraction, viewing and testing

These parameters are placed in the command string according to the archiver's template. For example, for extraction DMS has the command template of:

```
DMS command file[.DMS] [TO Dev:]
```

Thus, the command string for the UNP.prefs would be:

```
DMS @S @F TO @D
```

1.13 Extract Command Switch

The command to give to the archiving program to decompressing an archive.

1.14 View Command Switch

The command to give to the archiving program to view the contents of an archive.

1.15 Test Command Switch

The command to give to the archiving program to test the contents of an archive.

1.16 Destination For Unpacking Archive

The desired destination path for decompressing archives.

For disk based archivers (D: designation) multiple devices can be entered, each separated by a vertical line character (|). Therefore the following can be entered if RAD:, DF0: DF1: and DF2: were desired:

```
RAD:|DF0:|DF1:|DF2:
```

1.17 Options For Extracting

Options to pass to the archiving program when decompressing.

1.18 Options For Viewing

Options to pass to the archiving program when viewing the contents of an archive.

1.19 Filerequester Preferences

Following the R: characters is the description for the dimensions of the ASL file requester. This is specified as left border, top border, width and height for the requester.

1.20 Output Window Command

Following the C: characters is the description for the output window to open when decompressing an archive.

1.21 Default Source of Archives

Following the A: characters is the complete path for the drawer where archives are usually located.

1.22 Window Requester Preferences

Following the W: characters is the description for:

1) The first is for specifying if an "all done" indicator requester is desired. Entering N for NO will not open this requester. A Y for yes will pop up a requester.

2) The second option is to specify if the output window is to be automatically closed upon completion. Entering N for no will keep the window open until it is closed by the user or RETURN is pressed. A Y for yes will close the output window as soon as the uncompressing is done.

1.23 Default Command Switch

Following the S: characters is the description for the default acting switch to use when UNPacker called upon from the Workbench, either E (Extract), V (View), or T (Test).

1.24 Usage From the Shell and the Workbench

SHELL USAGE:

```
format: UNPacker [FROM] <filename> [TO] <drawer> [EXTRACT|E|X]
        [VIEW|LIST|V|L] [TEST|T] [NOREQ|NR]
```

```
template: UNPacker "FROM,TO,EXTRACT=E=X/S,VIEW=LIST=V=L/S,TEST=T/S,
                  NOREQ=NR/S"
```

When no options are supplied, UNPacker will open up requesters to obtain the necessary information it requires [see "WORKBENCH USAGE" below]. The NOREQ|NR command will cause the program to not open up any text requesters. If it was started from a shell then its output will be directed to here. The EXTRACT, VIEW, and TEXT parameters will bypass the settings in the prefs file on how to act on the archive file.

WORKBENCH USAGE:

From the Workbench, double click on the UNPacker icon. A file requester will open up. You may also click on the UNPacker icon and then hold down SHIFT and double click on an archive icon.

After a file has been chosen, a directory requester will come up. This will contain the default unpacking directory. You can either select "OK", or change the directory and then hit "OK". The file will then be decompressed.

If the file is a DMS type, then a requester with devices will pop up. Choose one to un-DMS to or hit "Quit" to exit the program.

TIPS AND SUGGESTIONS:

If you are using a program such as ToolManager or ToolsDaemon, you can install UNPacker into the Workbench "Tools" menu or as a Dock on the Workbench screen. When doing this, choose to execute the program from the CLI and select to pass arguments. You can then drop an archive onto the UNPacker Dock or choose

UNPacker from the "Tools" menu to unpack your file.

UNPacker also works great with programs such as DiskMaster, Directory Opus, Dirwork, etc.

Another great program to use UNPacker with is with IconChief by Stefan Schulz, or similar pseudo-default icon replacement programs. Set the default tool of the def_<archive>.info icons to UNPacker. Then it will be possible to uncompress archives from the Workbench by double-clicking on their icons.

1.25 Technical Information

TECHNICAL INFO:

As of version 1.00, UNPacker has been developed with the Amiga E language using an Amiga 2000 equipped with an 030/882 @ 25Mhz, 1Mb Chip/2Mb 16-bit/5Mb 32-bit FAST RAM, 730Mb NEC and 80Mb Quantum HDs, 15" Samsung SVGA monitor, A2320 display enhancer, A2232 serial card, 3.5" external floppy, Logicode 14.4 fax modem, and AmigaOS 3.1.

I would also like to give a big thanks ("THANKS GUYS!") to the following people for suggestions, beta testing and/or donations:

Greg Green
Adam Szymczak
Jorn Jansen

1.26 History

HISTORY:

- <1.00 - Ancient history...
 - 1.00 - UNPacker written in Amiga E
 - 1.10 - Initial public release (locally only): (May 6, 1993) 1.10
 - Filenames enclosed in quotes would give an error. This has been fixed.
 - 1.20 - Changed 'Cancel' keywords to 'Quit' ;-)
 - Added 'Quit' to destination file requester.
 - Fixed a spelling mistake. :-)
 - Modified some of the E code.
 - 1.50 - Almost complete rewrite of the E code, improving program execution.
 - Removed all enforcer hits with Enforcer V37.42
 - 1.60 - Added 'extended selecting' of archive from the WB
 - Modified E code somewhat in certain areas.
 - Compiled under AmigaE v3.x!
-

- 1.70 - Added user definable ASL file requester dimensions.
- 1.80 - Added ability to pass both filename and destination to UNPacker via the shell.
- 1.90 - NOT A PUBLIC RELEASE
 - Source code to v1.8 was lost. Managed to recover v1.7 code.
 - Modified it to what v1.8 was somewhat like.
- 2.00beta - NOT A PUBLIC RELEASE
 - Added ability to use any archive program (I hope).
 - Rewrote the routines to interrogate archives and determine what it is.
 - Added ability to extract, view or test the contents of an archive.
 - Format of prefs file changed (still a text file though)
- 2.00gamma - NOT A PUBLIC RELEASE
 - Rewrote routines for reading in the prefs file. It was slow and now is at an acceptable speed.
 - Fixed problem with ReqChange (got my parameters for AllocAslRequest() and AslRequest() mixed up...Opps!)
 - Worked on updating the guide file.
 - Updated the installer script. Seems that Ed doesn't like editing text files with control characters. Oh well...
- 2.00delta - NOT A PUBLIC RELEASE
 - When view or testing archives the output window will remain open until <Return> is pressed.
 - Ability to add extra options for extracting and viewing full disk archives to specific archives.
 - Ability to change the output window parameters.
 - Fixed problem with "All Done" requester popping up at the wrong times
 - Fixed problem with view and test commands being executed even though no view or test switch existing for an archiver.
 - Problem with ReqChange really fixed this time. Looks like I forgot to NIL terminate an E LIST. Opps!
- 2.00epsilon - NOT A PUBLIC RELEASE
 - Going a bit overboard with the greek letters, I know, but live with it! ;-)
 - Added @D, @F and @S parameters to disk archivers to handle all the different ways these programs work; makes the script a bit more flexible.
 - If the full path of a file was not passed then the executing archive program would not find the archive. UNPacker will now pass the entire archive pathname to the decompressing program.
 - Greatly expanded the guide file.
- 2.00 - PUBLIC RELEASE; no bugs right?? ;-)

1.27 IDs and Offsets for Compressors

COMPRESSOR	HEADER ID	OFFSET
ARC	??	0
ARJ		
LHA	-lh	2
LZX	LZX	0
SHR	shrinkFILE	20
ZIP	PK	0
ZOO	ZOO	0
DMS	DMS	0
LHW	??	0
WRP	Warp	0

1.28 Left Edge

Value for the left edge of the ASL file requester.

1.29 Top Edge

Value for the top edge of the ASL file requester.

1.30 Width

Value for the width of the ASL file requester.

1.31 Height

Value for the height of the ASL file requester.

1.32 Output-Window

The output window to open when decompressing an archive. An example would be:

```
CON:CON:0/14/600/300/UNPacker Version 2.0 Output/AUTO
```

1.33 Open Requester?

If an "all done" indicator requester is desired then enter N for NO. Entering Y for yes will pop up a requester indicating that UNPacker is all done.

1.34 Auto Close Output Window?

If the output window is to be automatically closed upon completion then enter N for no. Entering a Y for yes will close the output window as soon as the uncompressing is done.
