

PSVideo

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Chapter 1

PSVideo

1.1 PSVideo V2.1

PSVideo V2.1
The video data base for the AMIGA
=====

All rights reserved
Copyright © 1993-1995

Holger Papajewski
&
Jörg Stumpf

Introduction
Copyright
Registration
Installation

Using

History

1.2 Copyright

Copyright

Copyright © 1993-1995 Holger Papajewski & Joerg Stumpf

PSVideo is Shareware. You need a key file to use it without restrictions. Without the keyfile you can save only 5 tapes or 20 titles. The key file can be ordered from the authors. Read the topic Registration for further information.

PSVideo can be copied freely, if the following conditions are met:

- Every form of distribution is allowed and encouraged, but no fee can be charged for this program except for, possibly, the cost of magnetic media and/or disk duplication and shipping.
- The package is always distributed in its complete form.
- The program or any parts of it may not be distributed in any commercial product without the written consent of the authors.
- The program may not be changed, but it can be archived by packers as long as the original state can be restored at any time.

Disclaimer

This software is provided "as-is" and the authors accept no responsibility for damage and/or loss of data/equipment resulting from the use of this software.

1.3 Registration

Registration

If you want to register for PSVideo, please send the completed order form and either 30 DM or 20 US\$ to one of the following addresses:

Holger Papajewski
Johann-Mühlfort-Str.2d
39288 Burg

Joerg Stumpf
Südring 4a
39288 Burg

GERMANY

GERMANY

After this you will get the latest version of PSVideo and a key file registered to your name. With this key file you can use PSVideo without any restrictions. Please send only cash or EuroChecks (Europe only).

Possible Bugs

PSVideo has been tested on computers with different configurations. It should work without any malfunctions. Nevertheless, if you find a bug, please send a short description of it to the authors. Don't forget to explain your configuration and your installed commodities.

Suggestions

If you have any suggestions send them to us. We are interested in any good ideas. Perhaps we can incorporate your idea into one of the next versions of PSVideo. Suggestions can be sent to one of the following addresses:

by snail mail:

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1.4 Introduction

The Origin Story

Why yet another video data base?
Where is the version 1.x?

For a long, long time ...we had a small A500... we searched for a good video data base for Joerg's large video collection, to manage them in an easier way. Sometimes some movies disappeared or were found only after many hours of searching. We couldn't however find a program, which suited our needs.

Because of this we decided to write our own video data base. The first attempt, called VideoBase, was created after much effort. All movies from the collection were entered. All was very beautiful...

But then it happened. A new star was born - the A4000. And then came what must - we wanted this new computer... A short time later we had a super new Amiga 4000, and the problems started...

It was terrible to see the PAL-50Hz-Screen on our expensive multisync monitor. And always this Topaz font :-)

So, the concept was worked over, the tasks distributed again and we started programing from the beginning. So version 2.0 was born, but we had to look out for a new name because there were other programs with the name VideoBase on the market. We agreed to use the new name PSVideo. After some favourable reactions from our friends we decided to make the program available for all Amiga owners. For this much testing and many improvements were made.

And now there is another video data base for all Amigas.

Joerg & Holger wish you much fun with PSVideo.

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Short Description

PSVideo is a program to manage your private video collection. You can store a lot of information for any title. With powerful functions PSVideo helps you to make good use of your tapes.

Special Possibilities:

- The title, tape and class lists are situated on one screen so you can find a certain title, tape or class very quickly.

- You can define 10 additional inputs to the built-in title inputs.
- You can write larger descriptions for a title with the built-in editor.
- PSVideo helps you to search for a tape to record a title on it.
- PSVideo can find many titles at once by using the large search function.
- While typing the first letters of a title in the main window, PSVideo can search for it.
- Configurable print-out layout.
- When using a higher screen resolution an additional button bar will be provided, making PSVideo more comfortable to operate.
- The function keys can be configured with common program functions.
- Configurable screen resolution and fonts.
- Online help is available.
- PSVideo is localized (also under OS2.0). At this time there are catalogs in German and English available.

System Requirements

PSVideo is usable on all Amiga computers with at least OS2.0 and at least 1 MB of memory. A hard disk isn't required, but is highly recommended.

1.5 Installation

Installation

You have to install PSVideo according to the documentation before you can use it.

From the Workbench, insert the PSVideo installation disk into any drive. There is a installation directory which includes the installation program. Start the installation program by double clicking on the icon for the language you prefer. Execute all installation steps. If you have any questions about an installation step, please use the help function of the Commodore installer program. This will provide information for about the upcoming installation task.

1.6 Using PSVideo

Starting

After a successful installation you can start PSVideo from the Workbench by double clicking its icon. You can also execute it from a shell window.

PSVideo's user interface is divided into different windows. The work window, the main interface of PSVideo, gives you access to all the information of your video data base very easily. The tape window is used for creation and changing of tapes. The title window is used for creation and changing of titles. For writing larger title descriptions the built-in editor can be used.

The Work Window
The Title Window
The Tape Window
The Editor

1.7 The Work Window

The Work Window

Upon startup, PSVideo opens it's own work window. It will use your Workbench screen resolution and fonts if starting for the first time. If the screens resolution is high enough the button bar will be displayed. With it you can execute the main functions with your mouse very fast.

Every button corresponds with a certain menu item. These are from left to right:

Quit, Load, Save, new title, edit title, copy title, delete title, infotext for title, title extensions, new tape, edit tape, delete tape, print, and statistics.

The big list on the left side on the screen is used to display the titles in alphabetical order. The smaller list at the top right of the screen shows all your tapes sorted on their numbers. The small gauge on it's left side shows the used time of the selected tape. Below is the list for the classes. It is also sorted alphabeticly. The information display at the bottom of the screen reports the most important information of a selected title.

The Functions Of The Main Window

To learn the functions of PSVideo quickly, it's best to use the demo file. Use the menu item "Project Load" and load the demo file, situated in the example directory. After some seconds all lists should be filled.

When you click on a title, it will be marked by a blue bar. The tapes title will be selected in the tape list. Also the title's class will be selected in it's list. The information display shows you the title's running time, the counter, the number, the time, and the unused time of the tape. The class and the info line of the title are displayed too. On the right side of the information display you can see if the title was recorded in stereo, longplay, if there is any infotext for that title, and if it is protected from deletion.

You can use keyboard to select adjacent title's also. The "7" key on the numeric pad will select the previous and the "1" key the next title. To move the title list up and down use the corresponding cursor keys. Holding the shift key and pressing up or down moves the list up or down one page. To jump at the beginning or the end of the list press the "Control" key with the cursor keys.

By double clicking a title, its 10 definable extentions will be displayed in a separate window. Pressing the "Return" key performs the same action. Pressing the mouse button or a key will close the window. To show the infotext you have to press with the left mouse button on the title. Hold the mouse button down and press the right button. This opens the editor window in read only mode and displays the infotext for that title, if there is any. If you have a three button mouse the middle button will do the same. To close the editor press any key or mouse button or use the "Cancel" menu item or button.

To search for a certain title, input it's name with the keyboard. PSVideo will select the title corresponding to your input. For a larger search there is a separate menu item.

Click on a tape in the tape list to show all titles of that tape in the title list. The titles will be displayed in the same order in which they are recorded on the tape. Similar to the title list, the numeric pad keys "8" and "2" will select the previous or next tape in the list. You can also input the tape number directly. Press the "Tape" button in top of the list and input the number of the tape you wish to select into the requester.

The class list operates just as the tape list. To display all titles of a certain class, select them with the mouse. The title list will show all titles of this class. To select the previous or next class use the "9" or "3" keys on the numeric pad of the keyboard. To select a class by name, click on the button "Class" above the list.

To display all titles again, press the "Title" button at the top of the title list or the "0" key of the numeric pad.

The Menu

Project	Title	Tape	Special
About	Edit	Edit	Print
-----	New	Classes	
Load	Copy	-----	
Save	-----		
Save as...	Delete	-----	

New	Search		

Prefs	Extentions		

Quit			

1.8 The Main Window

About...

This menu item display brief information about the program and the user.

1.9 The Main Window

Load

To load a PSVideo file use this menu item. Select the file to load from the file requester. If there is any unsaved data in memory a confirmation request will appear, so you can cancel the load and save the data first.

1.10 The Main Window

Save

This menu item will save your data to disk. The directory and the name provided when loading will be used.

!!! ATTENTION !!!

There is no confirmation request. The old file will be overwritten with the new data. The old content is irrecoverable.

1.11 The Main Window

Save as...

Use the file requester to select a directory and file name under which you wish to save the data. If there already exists a file with this name, a confirmation requester asks you before overwriting the file.

There are always two files written. The first contains all information about the classes, tapes and titles. The other one which is marked with the extension ".txt" contains the infotexts for the titles.

1.12 The Main Window

New

The current data will be cleared after a confirmation request. Now you can create a new data base.

1.13 The Main Window

Preferences

The preferences window will be open. There you can setup PSVideo according to your own wishes.

Used Screen Mode PSVideo is able to work with different screen modes.

There is only one limit. The screen resolution must be 640x256 pixels at

least. In any other case PSVideo will open a "Pal Hires" screen mode. To use the Workbench screen mode set the left button to "Workbench". Now the program examines the Workbench screen mode at startup and uses the values for it's own screen. To use another mode set the left button to "Own". After pressing the "Screen Mode" button a screen mode requester will open to get the mode from you. You can also choose between 4 or 8 colors.

Used Fonts

As well as the screen mode you can choose your own fonts, but the system font which is used for all output may not be too large. There are 32 lines needed at least. If for any reasons the line value is too small, PSVideo will use the "topaz 8" font.

To use the Workbench fonts set the left button to "Workbench". Set the button to "Own" to select other fonts. With "Screen Font" you can choose the font for the menus, with "System Font" the font for all other output.

Language

To make it easy for everyone to use PSVideo can handle different languages. To change the language click on the "Language" button and choose your favorite language from the requester.

Default File

Here you can setup the file which should be loaded at program startup.

Title Extensions

You can change the inscription of the 10 user defineable input lines.

Function Keys

The button "Function Keys" will open a window where you can change the functions of the function keys. With the "Key" button you select the function key. With the "Window" button you select the window for which you want to change the key's functions. To setup a key choose the function listed in the window. The listed functions correspond to the menu items of the selected window.

Infotext

There are two modes for using the infotexts. If "RAM Mode" is selected all texts will be loaded permanently in memory. This method makes working with text as fast as possible. If there isn't enough memory to load all texts into, you must use the "Disk Mode". Now only the text which is needed will be read from the disk. Also all changes will be done to the file directly. If you use a floppy disk these actions can take a lot of time. That's why we recommend to use the "RAM Mode", if it is possible.

Check Infotext

Set the button to "Yes" to direct PSVideo to check the infotexts after loading. By using the disk mode there can be too many or too few texts, if you forget to save the data when leaving the program. This option corrects possible errors. With "No" you can switch off this function.

To save the new preferences press the "Save" button. Now PSVideo will always work with these values. If you press "Use", PSVideo will lose the preferences after quitting the program. To abort, press the "Cancel" button and PSVideo will continue with the old preferences. While saving the preferences the printer options will be also saved.

1.14 The Main Window

Quit

Here you leave PSVideo. If there is any unsaved data, a confirmation request will appear.

1.15 The Main Window

Edit

This menu item is for changing data of a selected title. The title window will be opened. For more information about the title window read the section titled "The Title Window" in this documentation.

1.16 The Main Window

New

The title window is opened to get data for a new title. For information about the title window, read "The Title Window" part of this documentation.

1.17 The Main Window

Copy

To duplicate a title, select it and choose this menu item. The title window will be opened. Some data of the copied title is inserted into the input lines. For title window information read "The Title Window" part of this documentation. This function is very useful if you record a series.

1.18 The Main Window

Delete

Operate this menu item to delete a selected title. After a confirmation request all data for the title will be removed from the database. The running time of the title will be given back to the tape. If the title is protected from deletion, you must first remove the protection from it. Use the "Edit" menu item to do so.

1.19 The Main Window

Search

The search window will be opened. There you can give some details on the title you wish to search for. Any empty input lines will be ignored during the search.

The functions of the input lines are:

Title

Enter the name of the title. PSVideo doesn't need the full name. All titles will be found which include the string entered.

Tape Number

Enter a tape number into the input line. Only titles which are located on that tape will be found.

Class

Only titles which are classified into this class will be found.

Running Time

To find a title with a certain running time, enter the time value here. With the right button you can indicate if the values should match exactly ("="), if the running time should be less or equal ("<="), or if the time should be greater or equal (">=").

Infotext

The extension window will be opened. Now you can enter some strings into the different input lines to search for.

Stereo, Longplay, Protect, Infotext

These buttons give you the possibility to search for titles with these characteristics. For instance, you can search for all titles which are recorded in stereo and so on. If the button is set to "Ignore", these characteristics will be ignored when searching. "No" means titles will be found without the specified characteristics, while "Yes" means titles will be found with these characteristics.

Press the "Ok" button to start the searching. All titles which match the data will be displayed in the title list.

1.20 The Main Window

Infotext

This menu item opens the editor window in display only mode to show the title's infotext.

1.21 The Main Window

Extensions

The extensions window will be opened to display the 10 freely defineable title extensions.

1.22 The Main Window

Edit

To change data for a certain tape, select it in the list and choose this menu item. The tape window will be opened. For information on the tape window read section in this document titled "The Tape Window".

1.23 The Tape Window

New

The tape window is open, to get data for a new tape. For information on the tape window read "The Tape Window" part of this documentation.

1.24 The Main Window

Delete

To delete the selected tape use this menu item. If there are any titles on this tape, a confirmation request will be opened to ask if they should be deleted. Press "Ok" to delete all titles on this tape. At this point another confirmation request asks you if you really want to delete the tape.

1.25 The Main Window

Search

Here you can search for a tape which has a certain unused time. Enter the time you search for into the requester. Now PSVideo will look for a tape with the entered time or more on it. If there is one, it will be selected in the tape list.

1.26 The Main Window

Print

The printer window will be opened. There are some options you can change to adjust the print-out to your own needs. The buttons are divided into two groups. The left button group defines the contents of the print-out. With the right one you can change some printer related settings.

!!! ATTENTION !!!

The printer window has no options to change the page or printer preferences. To change such things you have to use the preferences program of the Workbench. If there is any trouble with the print-out, please check the values for the page length and left and right page margins.

The buttons will change the following options:

Sort On

With this button you can choose if the print-out should be sorted in order of the classes, alphabetically ordered, or sorted in order of the tape numbers.

Extentions

If this button is set to "Print", the title's extentions will be printed with any title.

Infotext

Here you can adjust the position of the infotexts in the print-out. "No" will mean that no text will be printed. "End Of List" means that the infotexts will be printed after all titles. The texts will be in the same order as the titles. If you wish to print the text after the title, set the button to "After Title". To firstly print a page with titles and then the texts which belongs to them on the next, set the button to "On Next Side".

PrintOpt

Here you can choose if you want to print all titles, classes, or tapes (set button to "All") or only the selected one (set button to "Selected"). For instance if you want to print all titles of a certain tape, select it in the tape list and open the printer window. Set the "Sort On" button to "tape" and the "PrintOpt" button to "Selected". Now all titles on this tape will be printed out.

Page No

Here you can activate or deactivate the page numbering.

Date

This button activates or deactivates the date stamp on the print-out.

Font

To make larger texts more readable, many modern printers have the ability to print with a proportional font. With this button you can direct PSVideo to print all infotexts with such a font. Set the button to "Proportional".

Quality

Set this button to "NLQ" to get the best quality for your print-out. This option is used for the entire print-out.

Output

With this button you can divert the print-out into a file. If you set it to "File", the "Path" button will be enabled. Here you can open a file requester to choose the file for the re-direction.

Print

To reduce the amount of paper, PSVideo is able to print on both sides of the page. To do so, set this button to "Front & Back". Now all odd pages will be printed, followed by a requester asking you to feed the paper back into the

printer to print the even numbered pages. Please note, that the requester will appear when PSVideo has finished sending the data. In some cases the printer will still be printing, so you should wait for this to complete.

Short List

With this option you can make the print-out much shorter. If it is enabled, only one line is printed for each title.

Selecting "Cancel" exits the printer window. "Ok" starts the print-out.

1.27 The Main Window

Classes

If you want to change some classes, choose this menu item. A window will be opened which gives you the possibility to add, rename or delete some classes.

Add Class

Here you can add some classes. Enter the new class name into the requester.

Rename Class

To rename a class, select it in the list. Now press the rename button. Enter the new name into the requester that is opened.

Delete Class

Select a class. Now you can delete it by pressing this button, and confirming the request. If there is any title which is classified into this class, you will invited to choose another class for it.

1.28 statistics

Statistics

A window will be opened which displays some statistical data about your video database. To go to the next page, press the "Next" button.

1.29 The Tape Window

The Tape Window

The tape window is used to add a new, or change an existing tape. If the screen resolution is high enough, the button bar will be displayed. Its functions are from left to right: ok and cancel.

If you open the tape window to add a new tape, a tape number will be suggested automatically. This is the next available number. The other data will be taken from the last input.

If you open the tape window to change a tape, its data will be displayed in the input lines. You can change any value. At the bottom of the screen is a display which shows you all titles on the tape in their physical order. Also

the number of titles on this tape and the unused time are displayed.

The input lines mean:

Tape Number

This is the number of the tape. Any number can be used only once in the database.

Running Time

Enter here the running time of the tape.

Info

This is a short info line. Here you can describe the tape contents.

The Menu

Project

Ok

Cancel

1.30 The Tape Window

Ok

With this you will leave the tape window and the new data will be placed into the database.

1.31 The Tape Window

Cancel

Leave the window and discard the input.

1.32 The Title Window

The Title Window

The title window is used to add or change some titles. The button bar items, from left to right, mean:

ok, cancel, edit infotext, delete infotext, and edit extensions.

If you open the title window to add a new title, all input lines are cleared. You must at least enter the running time of the title, a tape, and a class to enter the new title into the database.

If you open the title window to change a title, all its data is displayed in the input lines so you may change them.

If you open the title window to copy a title, you will only need to enter a tape number and a counter. All other data is copied from the selected one.

The input lines and buttons mean:

Title

Enter here the name of the title.

Info

Give a comment for the title.

Running Time

Enter the running time of the title in minutes.

Tape Number

This is the tape number where the title is located.

Counter

Enter here the counter position on your video cassette recorder at which the title starts. Linear or real time (hh:mm:ss) counting is possible.

Class

Select the class of the title in the list.

The lower four buttons are for the automatic suggestion of a matched tape. They have the following functions:

Record Mode

Here you can adjust if the title should be recorded at an unused part of a tape or if another unprotected title should be replaced.

Reset

To reset the suggestion process, press this button.

Search

Here you invite PSVideo to suggest a tape on which the title should be recorded. The suggestions depend on the "Record Mode" button. In "New" mode the next tape with unused time matching the title's running time will be suggested. At each subsequent suggestion the tape will be suggested, which has the next greatest unused time. After the suggestion finishes all data for the tape will be displayed into the lower display field. In "Replace" mode the tape of the next unprotected title which matches or betters the running time will be suggested. The title you should record over will be marked in the lower display field. If it is larger than the new, its name will be changed to "Rest Of:" plus the old name. Its running time is the time between the new title and the next on that tape.

Ok

This button accepts the suggestion and puts the tape number into the input line.

The Menu

Project	Infotext	Extentions
Ok	Edit	Edit
Cancel	Delete	

1.33 The Title Window

Ok

With this you will leave the tape window and the new data is taken into the database.

1.34 The Title Window

Cancel

Leave the window and discard the input.

1.35 The Title Window

Edit

The editor will be opened to create or edit the infotext. For information on the editor read "The Editor" part of this documentation.

1.36 The Title Window

Delete

After a confirmation request the infotext will be deleted.

1.37 The Title Window

Edit

A window is opened to edit the 10 freely defineable title extentions.

1.38 The Editor

The Editor

An editor is integrated to give you the ability to create and edit larger descriptions for a title.

The buttons on the button bar mean, from left to right:
ok, cancel, load, and save.

The editor is able to perform word wrapping at the end of a line. This makes the text more readable.

The Menu

Project	Disk
Ok	Load
Cancel	Save

1.39 The Editor

Ok

With this you will leave the editor and the text will taken into the database.

1.40 The Editor

Cancel

Leave the window and discard the input.

1.41 The Editor

Load

This allows loading of ascii texts from disk. Choose the name of the file you wish to load with the file requester.

1.42 The Editor

Save

Use the file requester to select a directory and file name under which you want to save the text.

1.43 History

The History

Jan 1995 - PSVideo V2.0

- first public release

Aug 1995 - PSVideo V2.1

- key file added
 - real time counter added
hh:mm:ss
 - new format for printing added
for each title only one line is needed
 - restriction removed when deleting a title that is not the last
 - saves printer setup when saving preferences
 - you can change now all data of an existing tape or title
no gadgets are disabled
 - bug in statistics removed
all classes were written on one line if there was no title
 - bug in title window removed
if you use the replace mode in some cases you lost the infotext
 - some internal improvements
-