

# Hardware

**COLLABORATORS**

	<i>TITLE :</i> Hardware		
<i>ACTION</i>	<i>NAME</i>	<i>DATE</i>	<i>SIGNATURE</i>
WRITTEN BY		March 28, 2025	

**REVISION HISTORY**

NUMBER	DATE	DESCRIPTION	NAME

# Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>Hardware</b>	<b>1</b>
1.1	Amiga® Hardware Reference Manual: 8 Interface Hardware	1
1.2	8 Interface Hardware / Controller Port Interface	1
1.3	8 / Controller Port Interface / Registers used with Controller Port	2
1.4	8 / Controller Port Interface / Reading Mouse/Trackball Controllers	3
1.5	8 // Reading Mouse/Trackball Controllers / Reading the Counters	4
1.6	8 // Reading Mouse/Trackball Controllers / Counter Limitations	4
1.7	8 // Reading Mouse/Trackball Controllers / Mouse Buttons	5
1.8	8 / Controller Port Interface / Reading Digital Joystick Controllers	5
1.9	8 / Controller Port Interface / Reading Proportional Controllers	6
1.10	8 // Reading Controllers / Reading Proportional Controller Buttons	7
1.11	8 // Reading Controllers / Interpreting Controller Position	7
1.12	8 // Reading Controllers / Proportional Controller Registers	8
1.13	8 // Reading Proportional Controllers / Potentiometer Specifications	8
1.14	8 / Controller Port Interface / Reading A Light Pen	8
1.15	8 // Reading A Light Pen / Reading the Light Pen Registers	9
1.16	8 / Controller Port Interface / Digital I/O On The Controller Port	10
1.17	8 Interface Hardware / Floppy Disk Controller	11
1.18	8 / Floppy Disk Controller / Registers Used by the Disk Subsystem	11
1.19	8 / Floppy Disk Controller / Disk Subsystem Timing	12
1.20	8 // Disk Timing / CIAAPRA/PRB - Disk selection, control and sensing	14
1.21	8 // Disk Subsystem Timing / Disk DMA Channel Control	15
1.22	8 // Disk Subsystem Timing / DSKPTH - Pointer to Data	16
1.23	8 // Disk Subsystem Timing / DSKLEN - Length, Direction, DMA Enable	16
1.24	8 // Timing / DSKBYTR - Disk Data Byte and Status Read (read-only)	17
1.25	8 // Timing / ADKCON and ADKCONR - Audio and Disk Control Register	17
1.26	8 // Disk Subsystem Timing / DSKSYNC - Disk Input Synchronizer	19
1.27	8 / Floppy Disk Controller / Disk Interrupts	19
1.28	8 Interface Hardware / The Keyboard	19
1.29	8 / The Keyboard / How the Keyboard Data is Received	20

---

1.30	8 / The Keyboard / Type of Data Received . . . . .	20
1.31	8 // Type of Data Received / RAW Keycodes -> 00-3F hex . . . . .	20
1.32	8 // Type Of Data Received / RAW Keycodes -> 40-5F hex . . . . .	21
1.33	8 // Type Of Data Received / RAW Keycodes -> 60-67 hex . . . . .	21
1.34	8 // Type Of Data Received / F0-FF hex . . . . .	21
1.35	8 / The Keyboard / Limitations Of The Keyboard . . . . .	22
1.36	8 Interface Hardware / Serial I/O Interface . . . . .	22
1.37	8 / Serial I/O Interface / Introduction To Serial Circuitry . . . . .	23
1.38	8 / Serial I/O Interface / Setting The Baud Rate . . . . .	23
1.39	8 / Serial I/O Interface / Setting The Receive Mode . . . . .	24
1.40	8 / Serial I/O Interface / Contents Of The Receive Data Register . . . . .	24
1.41	8 / Serial I/O Interface / How Output Data Is Transmitted . . . . .	25
1.42	8 / Serial I/O Interface / Specifying The Register Contents . . . . .	27
1.43	8 Interface Hardware / Parallel I/O Interface . . . . .	27
1.44	8 Interface Hardware / Display Output Connections . . . . .	27

---

# Chapter 1

## Hardware

### 1.1 Amiga® Hardware Reference Manual: 8 Interface Hardware

This chapter covers the interface hardware through which the Amiga talks to the outside world, including the following features:

- \* Two multiple purpose mouse/joystick/light pen control ports
- \* Disk controller (for floppy disk drives & other MFM and GCR devices)
- \* Keyboard
- \* Centronics compatible parallel I/O interface (for printers)
- \* RS232-C compatible serial interface (for external modems or other serial devices)
- \* Video output connectors (RGB, monochrome, NTSC, RF modulator, video slot)

@{ " Controller Port Interface " link 8-1} 8-4}	@{ " Serial I/O Interface " link ↔
@{ " Floppy Disk Controller " link 8-2} 8-5}	@{ " Parallel I/O Interface " link ↔
@{ " The Keyboard " link 8-3} link 8-6}	@{ " Display Output Connections " ↔

### 1.2 8 Interface Hardware / Controller Port Interface

Each Amiga has two nine-pin connectors that can be used for input or output with a variety of controllers. Usually, the nine-pin connectors are used with a mouse or joystick but they will also accept input from light pens, paddles, trackballs, and other popular input devices.

Figure 8-1 shows one of the two connectors and the corresponding face-on view of a standard controller plug, while table 8-1 gives the pin assignments for some typical controllers.

Figure 8-1: Controller Plug and Computer Connector

Table 8-1: Typical Controller Connections

Pin	Joystick	Mouse, Trackball, Driving Controller	Proportional Controller (Pair)	X-Y Proportional Joystick	Light Pen
1	Forward	V-pulse	---	Button 3**	---
2	Back	H-pulse	---	---	---
3	Left	VQ-pulse	Left button	Button 1	---
4	Right	HQ-pulse	Right button	Button 2	---
5*	---	Middle button**	Right POT	POT X	Pen pressed to screen
6*	Button 1	Left button	---	---	Beam trigger
7	---	+5V	+5V	+5V	+5V
8	GND	GND	GND	GND	GND
9*	Button 2**	Right button	Left POT	POT Y	Button 2**

\* These pins may also be configured as outputs

\*\* These buttons are optional

```
@{ " Registers Used with the Controller Port " link 8-1-1}
@{ " Reading Mouse/Trackball Controllers " link 8-1-2}
@{ " Reading Digital Joystick Controllers " link 8-1-3}
@{ " Reading Proportional Controllers " link 8-1-4}
@{ " Reading a Light Pen " link 8-1-5}
@{ " Digital I/O on the Controller Port " link 8-1-6}
```

### 1.3 8 / Controller Port Interface / Registers used with Controller Port

The Amiga chip registers that handle the controller port I/O are listed below.

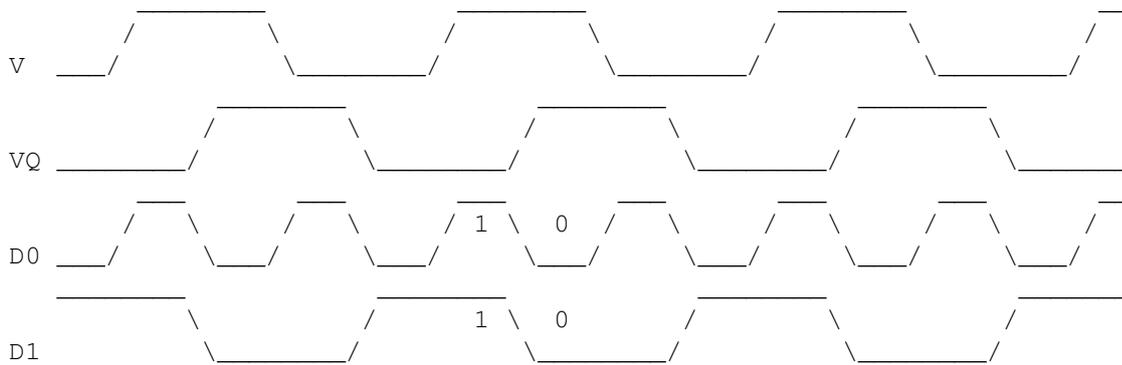
```
JOY0DAT ($DFF00A) Counter for digital (mouse) input (port 1)
JOY1DAT ($DFF00C) Counter for digital (mouse) input (port 2)
CIAAPRA ($BFE001) Input and output for pin 6 (port 1 & 2 fire buttons)
POT0DAT ($DFF012) Counter for proportional input (port 1)
POT1DAT ($DFF014) Counter for proportional input (port 2)
POTGO ($DFF034) Write proportional pin values and start counters
POTGOR ($DFF016) Read proportional pin values
BPLCON0 ($DFF100) Bit 3 enables the light pen latch
VPOSR ($DFF004) Read light pen position (high order bits)
VHPOSR ($DFF006) Read light pen position (low order bits)
```

### 1.4 8 / Controller Port Interface / Reading Mouse/Trackball Controllers

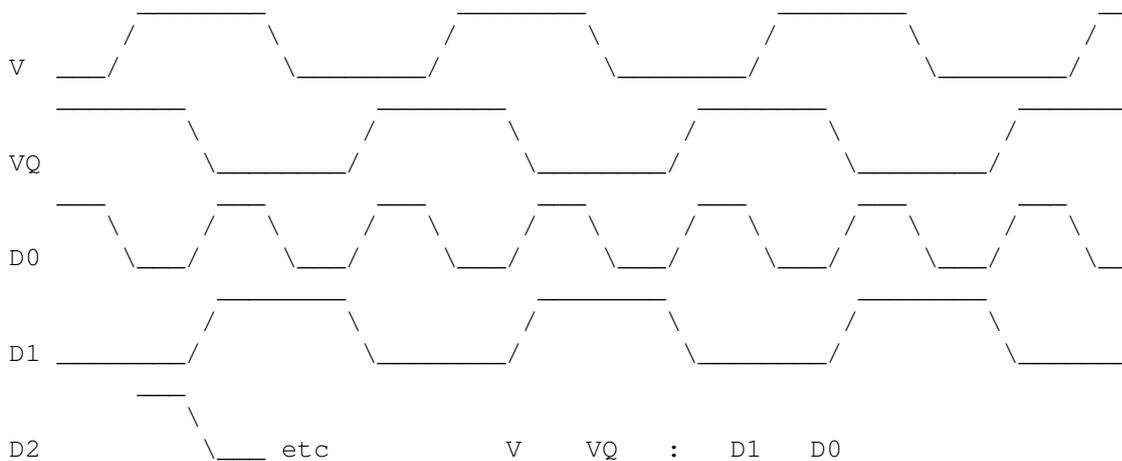
Pulses entering the mouse inputs are converted to separate horizontal and vertical counts. The 8 bit wide horizontal and vertical counter registers can track mouse movement without processor intervention.

The mouse uses quadrature inputs. For each direction, a mechanical wheel inside the mouse will produce two pulse trains, one 90 degrees out of phase with the other (see Figure 8-2 for details). The phase relationship determines direction.

Case 1: Count Up:



Case 2: Count Down:



V	VQ	:	D1	D0
0	0	:	1	0
0	1	:	0	1
1	0	:	1	1
1	1	:	0	0

Figure 8-2: Mouse Quadrature

The counters increment when the mouse is moved to the right or "down" (toward you).

The counters decrement when the mouse is moved to the left or "up" (away from you).

```
@{ " Reading the Counters " link 8-1-2-1}
@{ " Counter Limitations " link 8-1-2-2}
@{ " Mouse Buttons " link 8-1-2-3}
```

## 1.5 8 // Reading Mouse/Trackball Controllers / Reading the Counters

The mouse/trackball counter contents can be accessed by reading register addresses named JOY0DAT and JOY1DAT . These registers contain counts for ports 1 and 2 respectively.

The contents of each of these 16-bit registers are as follows:

```
Bits 15-8      Mouse/trackball vertical count
Bits  7-0      Mouse/trackball horizontal count
```

## 1.6 8 // Reading Mouse/Trackball Controllers / Counter Limitations

These counters will "wrap around" in either the positive or negative direction. If you wish to use the mouse to control something that is happening on the screen, you must read the counters at least once each vertical blanking period and save the previous contents of the registers. Then you can subtract from the previous readings to determine direction of movement and speed.

The mouse produces about 200 count pulses per inch of movement in either a horizontal or vertical direction. Vertical blanking happens once each 1/60th of a second. If you read the mouse once each vertical blanking period, you will most likely find a count difference (from the previous count) of less than 127. Only if a user moves the mouse at a speed of more than 38 inches per second will the counter values wrap. Fast-action games may need to read the mouse register twice per frame to prevent counter overrun.

If you subtract the current count from the previous count, the absolute value of the difference will represent the speed. The sign of the difference (positive or negative) lets you determine which direction the mouse is traveling.

The easiest way to calculate mouse velocity is with 8-bit signed arithmetic. The new value of a counter minus the previous value will represent the number of mouse counts since the last check. The example shown in Table 8-2 presents an alternate method. It treats both counts as unsigned values, ranging from 0 to 255. A count of 100 pulses is measured in each case.

Table 8-2: Determining the Direction of the Mouse

Previous Count	Current Count	Direction
-----	-----	-----
200	100	Up (Left)
100	200	Down (Right)
200	45	Down *
45	200	Up **

Notes for Table 8-2:

- \* Because  $200 - 45 = 155$ , which is more than 127, the true count must be  $255 - (200 - 45) = 100$ ; the direction is down.
- \*\*  $45 - 200 = -155$ . Because the absolute value of  $-155$  exceeds 127, the true count must be  $255 + (-155) = 100$ ; the direction is up.

## 1.7 8 // Reading Mouse/Trackball Controllers / Mouse Buttons

There are two buttons on the standard Amiga mouse. However, the control circuitry and software support up to three buttons.

- \* The left button on the Amiga mouse is connected to CIAAPRA (\$BFE001). Port 1 uses bit 6 and port 2 uses bit 7. A logic state of 1 means "switch open." A logic state of 0 means "switch closed." (See Appendix F for more information.)
- \* Button 2 (right button on Amiga mouse) is connected to pin 9 of the controller ports, one of the proportional pins. See Digital Input/Output on the Controller Port for details.
- \* Button 3, when used, is connected to pin 5, the other proportional controller input.

## 1.8 8 / Controller Port Interface / Reading Digital Joystick Controllers

Digital joysticks contain four directional switches. Each switch can be individually activated by the control stick. When the stick is pressed diagonally, two adjacent switches are activated. The total number of possible directions from a digital joystick is 8. All digital joysticks have at least one fire button.

Digital joystick switches are of the normally open type. When the switches are pressed, the input line is shorted to ground. An open switch reads as "1", a closed switch as "0".

Reading the joystick input data logic states is not so simple, however, because the data registers for the joysticks are the same as the counters that are used for the mouse or trackball controllers. The joystick registers are named JOY0DAT and JOY1DAT.

Table 8-3 shows how to interpret the data once you have read it from these

registers. The true logic state of the switch data in these registers is "1 = switch closed."

Data Bit	Interpretation
1	True logic state of "right" switch.
9	True logic state of "left" switch.
1 (XOR) 0	You must calculate the exclusive-or of bits 1 and 0 to obtain the logic state of the "back" switch.
9 (XOR) 8	You must calculate the exclusive-or of bits 9 and 8 to obtain the logic state of the "forward" switch.

Table 8-3: Interpreting Data from JOY0DAT and JOY1DAT

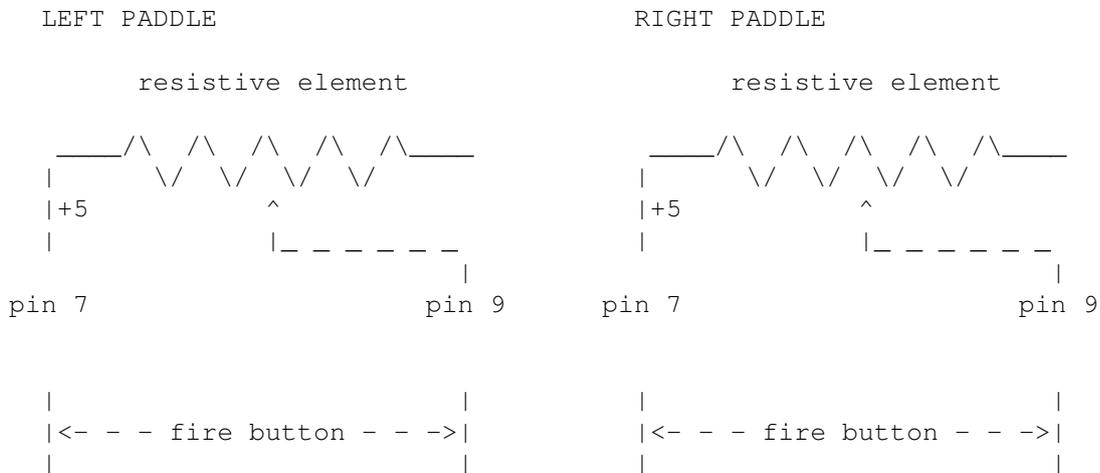
The fire buttons for ports 0 and 1 are connected to bits 6 and 7 of CIAAPRA (\$BFE001). A 0 here indicates the switch is closed.

Some, but not all, joysticks have a second button. We encourage the use of this button if the function the button controls is duplicated via the keyboard or another mechanism. This button may be read in the same manner as the right mouse button .

Figure 8-3: Joystick to Counter Connections

### 1.9 8 / Controller Port Interface / Reading Proportional Controllers

Each of the game controller ports can handle two variable-resistance input devices, also known as proportional input devices. This section describes how the positions of the proportional input devices can be determined. There are two common types of proportional controllers: the "paddle" controller pair and the X-Y proportional joystick. A paddle controller pair consists of two individual enclosures, each containing a single resistor and fire-button and each connected to a common controller port input connector. Typical connections are shown in Figure 8-4.





## 1.12 8 // Reading Controllers / Proportional Controller Registers

The following registers are used for the proportional controllers:

POT0DAT - port 1 data (vertical/horizontal)  
POT1DAT - port 2 data (vertical/horizontal)

Bit positions:

Bits 15-8 POT0Y value or POT1Y value  
Bits 7-0 POT0X value or POT1X value

All counts are reset to zero when POTGO is written with bit zero high. Counts are normally read one frame after the scan circuitry is enabled.

## 1.13 8 // Reading Proportional Controllers / Potentiometer Specifications

The resistance of the potentiometers should be a linear taper. Based on the design of the integrating analog-to-digital converter used, the maximum resistance should be no more than 528K (470K +/- 10 percent is suggested) for either the X or Y pots. This is based on a charge capacitor of 0.047uf, +/- 10 percent, and a maximum time of 16.6 milliseconds for charge to full value, ie. one video frame time.

All potentiometers exhibit a certain amount of "jitter". For acceptable results on a wide base of configurations, several input readings will need to be averaged.

Figure 8-6: Potentiometer Charging Circuit

## 1.14 8 / Controller Port Interface / Reading A Light Pen

A light pen can be connected to one of the controller ports. On the A1000, the light pen must be connected to port 1. Changing ports requires a minor internal modification. On the A500, A2000 and A3000 the default is port 2. An internal jumper can select port 1. Regardless of the port used, the light pen design is the same.

The signal called "pen-pressed-to-screen" is typically actuated by a switch in the nose of the light pen. Note that this switch is connected to one of the potentiometer inputs and must be read as same as the right or middle mouse button.

The principles of light pen operation are as follows:

1. Just as the system exits vertical blank, the capture circuitry for the light pen is automatically enabled.
2. The video beam starts to create the picture, sweeping from left to right for each horizontal line as it paints the picture from the top of the screen to the bottom.

3. The sensors in the light pen see a pulse of light as the video beam passes by. The pen converts this light pulse into an electrical pulse on the "Beam Trigger" line (pin 6).
4. This trigger signal tells the internal circuitry to capture and save the current contents of the beam register, VPOSR . This allows you to determine where the pen was placed by reading the exact horizontal and vertical value of the counter beam at the instant the beam passed the light pen.

@{ " Reading the Light Pen Registers " link 8-1-5-1}

## 1.15 8 // Reading A Light Pen / Reading the Light Pen Registers

The light pen register is at the same address as the beam counters. The bits are as follows:

VPOSR:	Bit 15	Long frame/short frame. 0=short frame
	Bits 14-1	Chip ID code. Do not depend on value!
	Bit 0	V8 (most significant bit of vertical position)
VHPOSR:	Bits 15-8	V7-V0 (vertical position)
	Bits 7-0	H8-H1 (horizontal position)

The software can refer to this register set as a long word whose address is VPOSR.

The positional resolution of these registers is as follows:

Vertical	1 scan line in non-interlaced mode 2 scan lines in interlaced mode (However, if you know which interlaced frame is under display, you can determine the correct position)
Horizontal	2 low resolution pixels in either high or low resolution

The quality of the light pen will determine the amount of short-term jitter. For most applications, you should average several readings together.

To enable the light pen input, write a 1 into bit 3 (LPEN) of BPLCON0 . Once the light pen input is enabled and the light pen issues a trigger signal, the value in VPOSR is frozen. If no trigger is seen, the counters latch at the end of the display field. It is impossible to read the current beam location while the VPOSR register is latched. This freeze is released at the end of internal vertical blanking (vertical position 20). There is no single bit in the system that indicates a light pen trigger. To determine if a trigger has occurred, use one of these methods:

1. Read (long) VPOSR twice.
2. If both values are not the same, the light pen has not triggered since the last top-of-screen (V = 20).
3. If both values are the same, mask off the upper 15 bits of the

32-bit word and compare it with the hex value of \$10500 (V = 261).

4. If the VPOSR value is greater than \$10500, the light pen has not triggered since the last top-of-screen. If the value is less, the light pen has triggered and the value read is the screen position of the light pen.

A somewhat simplified method of determining the truth of the light pen value involves instructing the system software to read the register only during the internal vertical blanking period of  $0 < V20$ :

1. Read (long) VPOSR once, during the period of  $0 < V20$ .
2. Mask off the upper 15 bits of the 32-bit word and compare it with the hex value of \$10500 (V = 261).
3. If the VPOSR value is greater than \$10500, the light pen has not triggered since the last top-of-screen. If the value is less, the light pen has triggered and the value read is the screen position of the light pen.

Note that when the light pen latch is enabled, the VPOSR register may be latched at any time, and cannot be relied on as a counter. This behavior may cause problems with software that attempts to derive timing based on VPOSR ticks.

## 1.16 8 / Controller Port Interface / Digital I/O On The Controller Port

The Amiga can read and interpret many different and nonstandard controllers. The control lines built into the POTGO register (address \$DFF034) can redefine the functions of some of the controller port pins.

Table 8-4 is the POTGO register bit description. POTGO (\$DFF034) is the write-only address for the pot control register. POTGOR (formerly POTINP) (\$DFF016) is the read-only address for the pot control register. The pot-control register controls a four-bit bidirectional I/O port that shares the same four pins as the four pot inputs.

Table 8-4: POTGO (\$DFF034) and POTGOR (\$DFF016) Registers

Bit Number	Name	Function
15	OUTRY	Output enable for bit 14 (1=output)
14	DATRY	data for port 2, pin 9
13	OUTRX	Output enable for bit 12
12	DATRX	data for port 2, pin 5
11	OUTLY	Output enable for bit 10
10	DATLY	data for port 1, pin 9 (right mouse button)
09	OUTLX	Output enable for bit 8
08	DATLX	data for port 1, pin 5 (middle mouse button)
07-01	X	chip revision identification number
00	START	Start pots (dump capacitors, start counters)

Instead of using the pot pins as variable-resistive inputs, you can use these pins as a four-bit input/output port. This provides you with two additional pins on each of the two controller ports for general purpose I/O.

If you set the output enable for any pin to a 1, the Amiga disconnects the potentiometer control circuitry from the port, and configures the pin for output. The state of the data bit controls the logic level on the output pin. This register must be written to at the POTGO address, and read from the POTGOR address. There are large capacitors on these lines, and it can take up to 300 microseconds for the line to change state.

To use the entire register as an input, sensing the current state of the pot pins, write all 0s to POTGO. Thereafter you can read the current state by using read-only address POTGOR. Note that bits set as inputs will be connected to the proportional counters (See the description of the START bit in POTGO).

These lines can also be used for button inputs. A button is a normally open switch that shorts to ground. The Amiga must provide a pull-up resistance on the sense pin. To do this, set the proper pin to output, and drive the line high (set both OUT... and DAT... to 1). Reading POTGOR will produce a 0 if the button is pressed, a 1 if it is not.

The joystick fire buttons can also be configured as outputs. CIAADDR (\$BFE201) contains a mask that corresponds one-to-one with the data read register, CIAAPRA (\$BFE001). Setting a 1 in the direction position makes the corresponding bit an output. See Appendix F for more details.

## 1.17 8 Interface Hardware / Floppy Disk Controller

The built-in disk controller in the system can handle up to four MFM-type devices. Typically these are double-sided, double-density, 3.5" (90mm) or 5.25" disk drives. One 3.5" drive is installed in the basic unit.

The controller is extremely flexible. It can DMA an entire track of raw MFM data into memory in a single disk revolution. Special registers allow the CPU to synchronize with specific data, or read input a byte at a time. The controller can read and write virtually any double-density MFM encoded disk, including the Amiga V1.0 format, IBM PC (MS-DOS) 5.25", IBM PC (MS-DOS) 3.5" and most CP/M (TM) formatted disks. The controller has provisions for reading and writing most disk using the Group Coded Recording (GCR) method, including Apple II (TM) disks. With motor speed tricks, the controller can read and write Commodore 1541/1571 format diskettes.

```
@{ " Registers Used by the Disk Subsystem " link 8-2-1}
@{ " Disk Subsystem Timing " link 8-2-2}
@{ " Disk Interrupts " link 8-2-3}
```

## 1.18 8 / Floppy Disk Controller / Registers Used by the Disk Subsystem

The disk subsystem uses two ports on the system's 8520 CIA chips, and several registers in the Paula chip:

CIAAPRA	(\$BFE001)	four input bits for disk sensing
CIABPRB	(\$BFD100)	eight output bits for disk selection, control and stepping
ADKCON	(\$DFF09E)	control bits (write only register)
ADKCONR	(\$DFF010)	control bits (read only register)
DSKPTH	(\$DFF020)	DMA pointer (32 bits)
DSKLEN	(\$DFF024)	length of DMA
DSKBYTR	(\$DFF01A)	Disk data byte and status read
DSKSYNC	(\$DFF07E)	Disk sync finder; holds a match word

### 1.19 8 / Floppy Disk Controller / Disk Subsystem Timing

Figures 8-7, 8-8 and 8-9 show the timing parameters of the Amiga's floppy disk subsystem with a Chinon drive. Keep in mind that this information can change with floppy drives from other vendors. To ensure compatibility with future versions of the system, you should avoid using this information in applications.

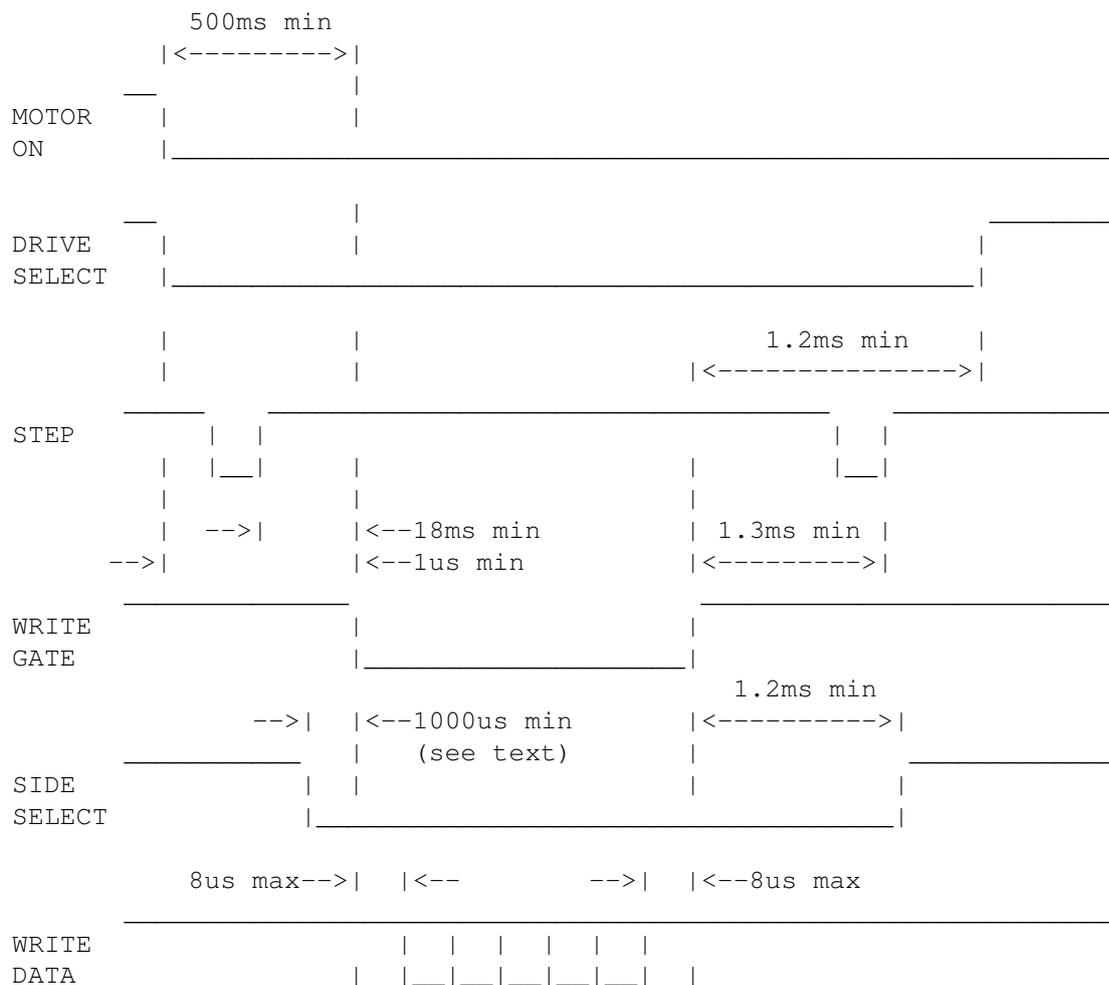


Figure 8-7: Chinon Write Timing Diagram

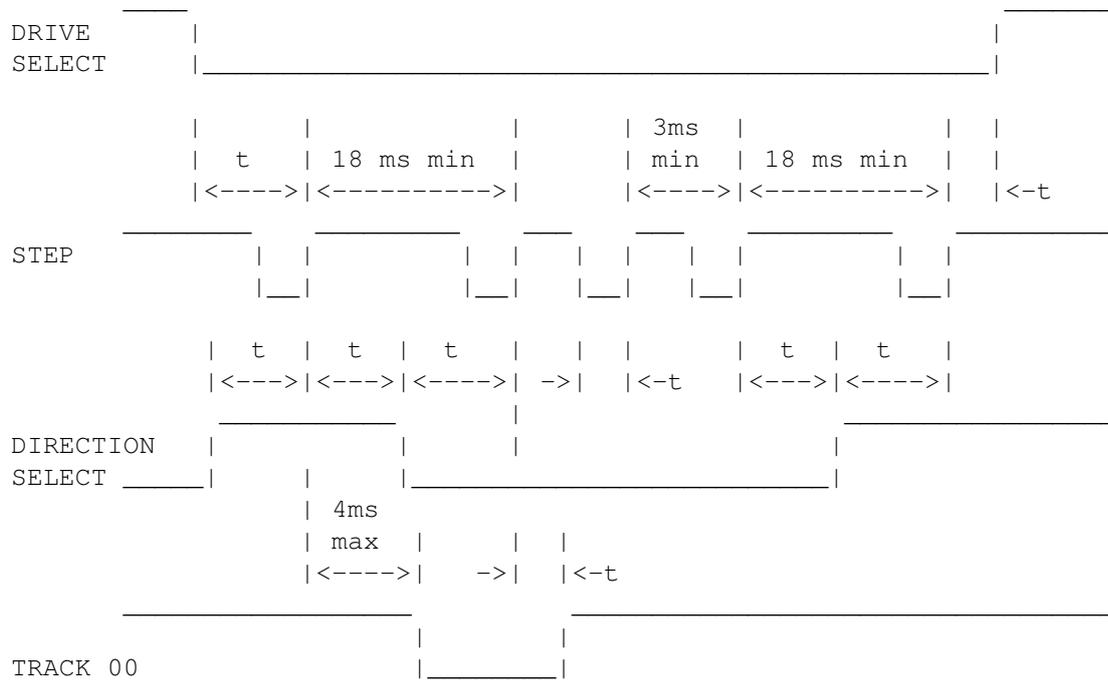


Figure 8-8: Chinon Access Timing Diagram

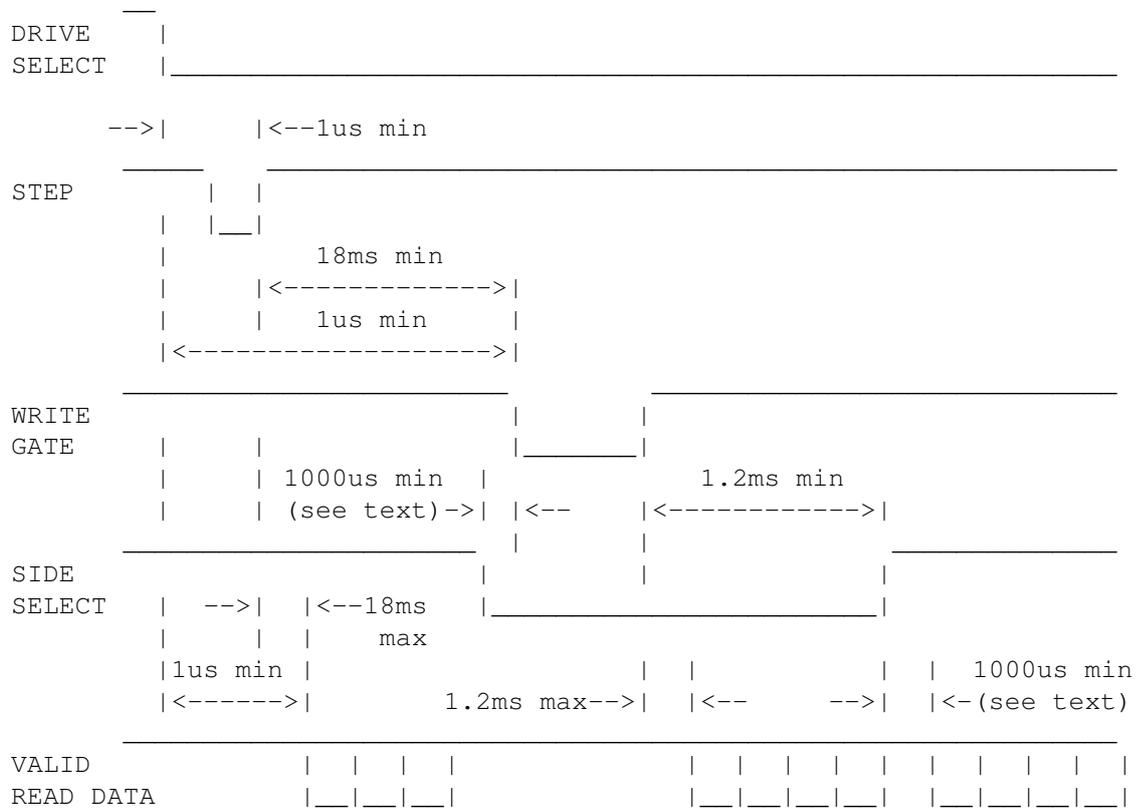


Figure 8-8: Chinon Read Timing Diagram

```
@{ " CIAAPRA/CIABPRB - Disk selection, control and sensing " link 8-2-2-1}
@{ " Disk DMA Channel Control " link 8-2-2-2}
@{ " DSKPTH - Pointer to Data " link 8-2-2-3}
@{ " DSKLEN - Length, Direction, DMA Enable " link 8-2-2-4}
@{ " DSKBYTR - Disk Data Byte and Status Read (read-only) " link 8-2-2-5}
@{ " ADKCON and ADKCONR - Audio and Disk Control Register " link 8-2-2-6}
@{ " DSKSYNC - Disk Input Synchronizer " link 8-2-2-7}
```

## 1.20 8 // Disk Timing / CIAAPRA/PRB - Disk selection, control and sensing

The following table lists how 8520 chip bits used by the disk subsystem. Bits labeled PA are input bits in CIAAPRA (\$BFE001). Bits labeled PB are output bits located in CIAAPRB (\$BFD100). More information on how the 8520 chips operate can be found in Appendix F.

Table 8-5: Disk Subsystem

Bit	Name	Function
---	----	-----
PA5	DSKRDY*	Disk ready (active low). The drive will pull this line low when the motor is known to be rotating at full speed. This signal is only valid when the motor is ON, at other times configuration information may obscure the meaning of this input.
PA4	DSKTRACK0*	Track zero detect. The drive will pull this line low when the disk heads are positioned over track zero. Software must not attempt to step outwards when this signal is active. Some drives will refuse to step, others will attempt the step, possibly causing alignment damage. All new drives must refuse to step outward in this condition.
PA3	DSKPROT*	Disk is write protected (active low).
PA2	DSKCHANGE*	Disk has been removed from the drive. The signal goes low whenever a disk is removed. It remains low until a disk is inserted AND a step pulse is received.
	-----	
PB7	DSKMOTOR*	Disk motor control (active low). This signal is nonstandard on the Amiga system. Each drive will latch the motor signal at the time its select signal turns on. The disk drive motor will stay in this state until the next time select turns on. DSKMOTOR* also controls the activity light on the front of the disk drive.

All software that selects drives must set up the motor signal before selecting any drives. The drive will "remember" the state of its motor when it is not selected. All drive motors turn off after system

reset.

After turning on the motor, software must further wait for one half second (500ms), or for the DSKRDY\* line to go low.

PB6	DSKSEL3*	Select drive 3 (active low).
PB5	DSKSEL2*	Select drive 2 (active low).
PB4	DSKSEL1*	Select drive 1 (active low).
PB3	DSKSEL0*	Select drive 0 (internal drive) (active low).
PB2	DSKSIDE	Specify which disk head to use. Zero indicates the upper head. DSKSIDE must be stable for 100 microseconds before writing. After writing, at least 1.3 milliseconds must pass before switching DSKSIDE.
PB1	DSKDIREC	Specify the direction to seek the heads. Zero implies seek towards the center spindle. Track zero is at the outside of the disk. This line must be set up before the actual step pulse, with a separate write to the register.
PB0	DSKSTEP*	Step the heads of the disk. This signal must always be used as a quick pulse (high, momentarily low, then high).

The drives used for the Amiga are guaranteed to get to the next track within 3 milliseconds. Some drives will support a much faster rate, others will fail. Loops that decrement a counter to provide delay are not acceptable. See Appendix F for a better solution.

When reversing directions, a minimum of 18 milliseconds delay is required from the last step pulse. Settle time for Amiga drives is specified at 15 milliseconds.

FLAG	DSKINDEX*	Disk index pulse (\$BFDD00, bit 4). Can be used to create a level 6 interrupt. See Appendix F for details.
------	-----------	--

## 1.21 8 // Disk Subsystem Timing / Disk DMA Channel Control

Data is normally transferred to the disk by direct memory access (DMA). The disk DMA is controlled by four items:

- \* Pointer to the area into which or from which the data is to be moved
- \* Length of data to be moved by DMA
- \* Direction of data transfer (read/write)

\* DMA enable

## 1.22 8 // Disk Subsystem Timing / DSKPTH - Pointer to Data

You specify the 32-bit wide address from which or to which the data is to be transferred. The lowest bit of the address must be zero, and the buffer must be in Chip memory. The value must be written as a single long word to the DSKPTH register (\$DFF020).

## 1.23 8 // Disk Subsystem Timing / DSKLEN - Length, Direction, DMA Enable

All of the control bits relating to this topic are contained in a write-only register, called DSKLEN:

Table 8-6: DSKLEN Register (\$DFF024)

Bit Number	Name	Usage
-----	----	-----
15	DMAEN	Secondary disk DMA enable
14	WRITE	Disk write (RAM -> disk if 1)
13-0	LENGTH	Number of words to transfer

The hardware requires a special sequence in order to start DMA to the disk. This sequence prevents accidental writes to the disk. In short, the DMAEN bit in the DSKLEN register must be turned on twice in order to actually enable the disk DMA hardware. Here is the sequence you should follow:

1. Enable disk DMA in the DMACON register (See Chapter 7 for more information)
2. Set DSKLEN to \$4000, thereby forcing the DMA for the disk to be turned off.
3. Put the value you want into the DSKLEN register.
4. Write this value again into the DSKLEN register. This actually starts the DMA.
5. After the DMA is complete, set the DSKLEN register back to \$4000, to prevent accidental writes to the disk.

As each data word is transferred, the length value is decremented. After each transfer occurs, the value of the pointer is incremented. The pointer points to the the next word of data to written or read. When the length value counts down to 0, the transfer stops.

The recommended method of reading from the disk is to read an entire track into a buffer and then search for the sector(s) that you want. Using the DSKSYNC register (described below) will guarantee word alignment of the data. With this process you need to read from the disk only once for the entire track. In a high speed loader, the step to the next head can occur while the previous track is processed and checksummed. With this method

there are no time-critical sections in reading data, other high-priority subsystems (such as graphics or audio) are be allowed to run.

If you have too little memory for track buffering (or for some other reason decide not to read a whole track at once), the disk hardware supports a limited set of sector-searching facilities. There is a register that may be polled to examine the disk input stream.

There is a hardware bug that causes the last three bits of data sent to the disk to be lost. Also, the last word in a disk-read DMA operation may not come in (that is, one less word may be read than you asked for).

## 1.24 8 // Timing / DSKBYTR - Disk Data Byte and Status Read (read-only)

This register is the disk-microprocessor data buffer. In read mode, data from the disk is placed into this register one byte at a time. As each byte is received into the register, the DSKBYT bit is set true. DSKBYT is cleared when the DSKBYTR register is read.

DSKBYTR may be used to synchronize the processor to the disk rotation before issuing a read or write under DMA control.

Table 8-7: DSKBYTR Register

Bit Number	Name	Function
-----	----	-----
15	DSKBYT	When set, indicates that this register contains a valid byte of data (reset by reading this register).
14	DMAON	Indicates when DMA is actually enabled. All the various DMA bits must be true. This means the DMAEN bit in DSKLEN, and the DSKEN & DMAEN bits in DMACON.
13	DISKWRITE	The disk write bit (in DSKLEN) is enabled.
12	WORDEQUAL	Indicates the DSKSYNC register equals the disk input stream. This bit is true only while the input stream matches the sync register (as little as two microseconds).
11-8		Currently unused; don't depend on read value.
7-0	DATA	Disk byte data.

## 1.25 8 // Timing / ADKCON and ADKCONR - Audio and Disk Control Register

ADKCON is the write-only address and ADKCONR is the read-only address for this register. Not all of the bits are dedicated to the disk. Bit 15 of

this register allows independent setting or clearing of any bit or bits. If bit 15 is a one on a write, any ones in positions 0-14 will set the corresponding bit. If bit 15 is a zero, any ones will clear the corresponding bit.

Table 8-8: ADKCON and ADKCONR Register

Bit Number	Name	Function
15	SET/CLR	Control bit that allows setting or clearing of individual bits without affecting the rest of the register.  If bit 15 is a 1, the specified bits are set. If bit 15 is a 0, the specified bits are cleared.
14	PRECOMP1	MSB of Precompensation specifier
13	PRECOMP0	LSB of Precompensation specifier  Value of 00 selects none. Value of 01 selects 140 ns. Value of 10 selects 280 ns. Value of 11 selects 560 ns.
12	MFMPREC	Value of 0 selects GCR Precompensation. Value of 1 selects MFM Precompensation.
10	WORDSYNC	Value of 1 enables synchronizing and starting of DMA on disk read of a word. The word on which to synchronize must be written into the DSKSYNC address (\$DFF07E). This capability is highly useful.
9	MSBSYNC	Value of 1 enables sync on most significant bit of the input (usually used for GCR).
8	FAST	Value of 1 selects two microseconds per bit cell (usually MFM). Data must be valid raw MFM. 0 selects four microseconds per bit (usually GCR).
7-0		These bits are used by the audio subsystem for volume and frequency modulation.

The raw MFM data that must be presented to the disk controller will be twice as large as the unencoded data. The following table shows the relationship:

```

1 -> 01
0 -> 10 ;if following a 0
0 -> 00 ;if following a 1

```

With clever manipulation, the blitter can be used to encode and decode the MFM.

In one common form of GCR recording, each data byte always has the most significant bit set to a 1. MSBSYNC, when a 1, tells the disk controller to look for this sync bit on every disk byte. When reading a GCR formatted disk, the software must use a translate table called a nybble-izer to assure that data written to the disk does not have too many consecutive 1's or 0's.

## 1.26 8 // Disk Subsystem Timing / DSKSYNC - Disk Input Synchronizer

The DSKSYNC register is used to synchronize the input stream. This is highly useful when reading disks. If the WORDSYNC bit is enabled in ADKCON, no data is transferred until a word is found in the input stream that matches the word in the DSKSYNC register. On read, DMA will start with the following word from the disk. During disk read DMA, the controller will resync every time the word match is found. Typically the DSKSYNC will be set to the magic MFM sync mark value, \$4489.

In addition, the DSKSYNC bit in INTREQ is set when the input stream matches the DSKSYNC register. The DSKSYNC bit in INTREQ is independent of the WORDSYNC enable.

## 1.27 8 / Floppy Disk Controller / Disk Interrupts

The disk controller can issue three kinds of interrupts:

- \* DSKSYNC (level 5, INTREQ bit 12) -- input stream matches the DSKSYNC register.
- \* DSKBLK (level 1, INTREQ bit 1) -- disk DMA has completed.
- \* INDEX (level 6, 8520 Flag pin) -- index sensor triggered.

Interrupts are explained further in the section Length, Direction, DMA Enable .

See Chapter 7, "System Control Hardware," for more information about interrupts .

See Appendix F for more information on the 8520.

## 1.28 8 Interface Hardware / The Keyboard

The keyboard is interfaced to the system via the serial shift register on one of the 8520 CIA chips. The keyboard data line (KDAT) is connected to the SP pin, the keyboard clock (KCLK) is connected to the CNT pin. Appendix G contains a full description of the interface.

```
@{ " How the Keyboard Data is Received " link 8-3-1}
@{ " Type of Data Received " link 8-3-2}
@{ " Limitations of the Keyboard " link 8-3-3}
```

## 1.29 8 / The Keyboard / How the Keyboard Data is Received

The CNT line is used as a clock for the keyboard. On each transition of this line, one bit of data is clocked in from the keyboard. The keyboard sends this clock when each data bit is stable on the SP line. The clock is an active low pulse. The rising edge of this pulse clocks in the data.

After a data byte has been received from the keyboard, an interrupt from the 8520 is issued to the processor. The keyboard waits for a handshake signal from the system before transmitting any more keystrokes. This handshake is issued by the processor pulsing the SP line low then high. While some keyboards can detect a 1 microsecond handshake pulse, the pulse must be at least 85 microseconds for operation with all models of Amiga keyboards.

If another keystroke is received before the previous one has been accepted by the processor, the keyboard microprocessor holds keys in a 10 keycode type-ahead buffer.

## 1.30 8 / The Keyboard / Type of Data Received

The keyboard data is not received in the form of ASCII characters. Instead, for maximum versatility, it is received in the form of keycodes. These codes include both the down and up transitions of the keys. This allows your software to use both sets of information to determine exactly what is happening on the keyboard.

Here is a list of the hexadecimal values that are assigned to the keyboard. A downstroke of the key transmits the value shown here. An upstroke of the key transmits this value plus \$80. The picture of the keyboard shows the positions that correspond to the description in the sections below.

Note that raw keycodes provide positional information only, the legend which is printed on top of the keys changes from country to country.

```
@{ " RAW Keycodes -> 00-3F hex " link 8-3-2-1}
@{ " RAW Keycodes -> 40-5F hex (Codes common to all keyboards) " link 8-3-2-2}
@{ " RAW Keycodes -> 60-67 hex (Key codes for qualifier keys) " link 8-3-2-3}
@{ " F0-FF hex " link 8-3-2-4}
```

## 1.31 8 // Type of Data Received / RAW Keycodes -> 00-3F hex

These are key codes assigned to specific positions on the main body of the keyboard. The letters on the tops of these keys are different for each country; not all countries use the QWERTY key layout. These keycodes are best described positionally as shown in Figure 8-10 and Figure 8-11. The international keyboards have two more keys that are "cut out" of larger keys on the USA version. These are \$30, cut out from the the left shift, and \$2B, cut out from the return key.

Figure 8-10: The Amiga 1000 Keyboard

Figure 8-11: The Amiga 500/2000/3000 Keyboard

### 1.32 8 // Type Of Data Received / RAW Keycodes -> 40-5F hex

Codes common to all keyboards

40	Space
41	Backspace
42	Tab
43	Numeric Pad "ENTER"
44	Return
45	Escape
46	Delete
4A	Numeric pad minus
4C	Cursor up
4D	Cursor down
4E	Cursor right
4F	Cursor left
50-59	Function keys F1-F10
5A	Numeric pad left parenthesis
5B	Numeric pad right parenthesis
5C	Numeric pad slash "/"
5D	Numeric pad asterisk
5E	Numeric pad plus
5F	Help

### 1.33 8 // Type Of Data Received / RAW Keycodes -> 60-67 hex

Key codes for qualifier keys

60	Left Shift
61	Right Shift
62	Caps Lock
63	Control
64	Left Alt
65	Right Alt
66	Left Amiga (or Commodore key)
67	Right Amiga

### 1.34 8 // Type Of Data Received / F0-FF hex

These key codes are used for keyboard to 680x0 communication, and are not associated with a keystroke. They have no key transition flag, and are therefore described completely by 8-bit codes:

78	Reset warning. Ctrl-Amiga-Amiga has been pressed. The keyboard will wait a maximum of 10 seconds before resetting the machine. (Not available on all keyboard models)
----	---

F9	Last key code bad, next key is same code retransmitted
FA	Keyboard key buffer overflow
FC	Keyboard self-test fail. Also, the caps-lock LED will blink to indicate the source of the error. Once for ROM failure, twice for RAM failure and three times if the watchdog timer fails to function.
FD	Initiate power-up key stream (for keys held or stuck at power on)
FE	Terminate power-up key stream.

These key codes will usually be filtered out by keyboard drivers.

### 1.35 8 / The Keyboard / Limitations Of The Keyboard

The Amiga keyboard is a matrix of rows and columns with a key switch at each intersection (see Appendix G for a diagram of the matrix). Because of this, the keyboard is subject to a phenomenon called "phantom keystrokes." While this is generally not a problem for typing, games may require several keys be independently held down at once. By examining the matrix, you can determine which keys may interfere with each other, and which ones are always safe.

Phantom keystrokes occur when certain combinations of keys pressed are pressed simultaneously. For example, hold the "A" and "S" keys down simultaneously. Notice that "A" and "S" are transmitted. While still holding them down, press "Z". On the original Amiga 1000 keyboard, both the "Z" and a ghost "X" would be generated. Starting with the Amiga 500, the controller was upgraded to notice simple phantom situations like the one above; instead of generating a ghost, the controller will hold off sending any character until the matrix has cleared (releasing "A" or "S" would clear the matrix). Some high-end Amiga keyboards may implement true "N-key rollover," where any combination of keys can be detected simultaneously.

All of the keyboards are designed so that phantoms will not happen during normal typing, only when unusual key combinations like the one just described are pressed. Normally, the keyboard will appear to have "N-key rollover," which means that you will run out of fingers before generating a ghost character.

About the qualifier keys.

-----  
Seven keys are not part of the matrix, and will never contribute to generating phantoms. These keys are: Ctrl, the two Shift keys, the two Amiga keys, and the two Alt keys.

### 1.36 8 Interface Hardware / Serial I/O Interface

A 25-pin connector on the back panel of the computer serves as the general purpose serial interface. This connector can drive a wide range of different peripherals, including an external modem or a serial printer.

For pin connections, see Appendix E.

```
@{ " Introduction To Serial Circuitry " link 8-4-1} @{} Contents Of The Receive ←
Data Register " link 8-4-4}
@{} Setting The Baud Rate " link 8-4-2} @{} How Output Data Is ←
Transmitted " link 8-4-5}
@{} Setting The Receive Mode " link 8-4-3} @{} Specifying The Register ←
Contents " link 8-4-6}
```

### 1.37 8 / Serial I/O Interface / Introduction To Serial Circuitry

The Paula custom chip contains a Universal Asynchronous Receiver/Transmitter, or UART. This UART is programmable for any rate from 110 to over 1,000,000 bits per second. It can receive or send data with a programmable length of eight or nine bits.

The UART implementation provides a high degree of software control. The UART is capable of detecting overrun errors, which occur when some other system sends in data faster than you remove it from the data-receive register. There are also status bits and interrupts for the conditions of receive buffer full and transmit buffer empty. An additional status bit is provided that indicates "all bits have been shifted out". All of these topics are discussed in following sections.

### 1.38 8 / Serial I/O Interface / Setting The Baud Rate

The rate of transmission (the baud rate) is controlled by the contents of the register named SERPER. Bits 14-0 of SERPER are the baud-rate divider bits.

All timing is done on the basis of a "color clock," which is 279.36ns long on NTSC machines and 281.94ns on PAL machines. If the SERPER divisor is set to the number N, then N+1 color clocks occur between samples of the state of the input pin (for receive) or between transmissions of output bits (for transmit). Thus  $SERPER = (3,579,545/ baud) - 1$ . On a PAL machine,  $SERPER = (3,546,895/ baud) - 1$ . For example, the proper SERPER value for 9600 baud on an NTSC machine is  $(3,579,545/9600) - 1 = 371$ .

With a cable of a reasonable length, the maximum reliable rate is on the order of 150,000-250,000 bits per second. Maximum rates will vary between machines. At these high rate it is not possible to handle the overhead of interrupts. The receiving end will need to be in a tight read loop. Through the use of low speed control information and high-speed bursts, a very inexpensive communication network can be built.

## 1.39 8 / Serial I/O Interface / Setting The Receive Mode

The number of bits that are to be received before the system tells you that the receive register is full may be defined either as eight or nine (this allows for 8 bit transmission with parity). In either case, the receive circuitry expects to see one start bit, eight or nine data bits, and at least one stop bit.

Receive mode is set by bit 15 of the write-only SERPER register. Bit 15 is a 1 if you chose nine data bits for the receive-register full signal, and a 0 if you chose eight data bits. The normal state of this bit for most receive applications is a 0.

## 1.40 8 / Serial I/O Interface / Contents Of The Receive Data Register

The serial input data-receive register is 16 bits wide. It contains the 8 or 9 bit input data and status bits.

The data is received, one bit at a time, into an internal serial-to-parallel shift register. When the proper number of bit times have elapsed, the contents of this register are transferred to the serial data read register (SERDATR) shown in Table 8-10, and you are signaled that there is data ready for you.

Immediately after the transfer of data takes place, the receive shift register again becomes ready to accept new data. After receiving the receiver-full interrupt, you will have up to one full character-receive time (8 to 10 bit times) to accept the data and clear the interrupt. If the interrupt is not cleared in time, the OVERRUN bit is set.

Table 8-9 shows the definitions of the various bit positions within SERDATR.

Table 8-9: SERDATR / ADKCON Registers

SERDATR

-----

Bit

Number	Name	Function
15	OVRUN	OVERRUN (Mirror -- also appears in the interrupt request register.) Indicates that another byte of data was received before the previous byte was picked up by the processor. To prevent this condition, it is necessary to reset INTF_RBF (bit 11, receive-buffer-full) in INTREQ.
14	RBF	READ BUFFER FULL (Mirror -- also appears in the interrupt request register.) When this bit is 1, there is data ready to

-----

be picked up by the processor. After reading the contents of this data register, you must reset the INTF\_RBF bit in INTREQ to prevent an overrun.

13      TBE      TRANSMIT BUFFER EMPTY  
 (Not a mirror -- interrupt occurs when the buffer becomes empty.) When bit 14 is a 1, the data in the output data register ( SERDAT ) has been transferred to the serial output shift register , so SERDAT is ready to accept another output word. This is also true when the buffer is empty.

This bit is normally used for full-duplex operation.

12      TSRE      TRANSMIT SHIFT REGISTER EMPTY  
 When this bit is a 1, the output shift register has completed its task, all data has been transmitted, and the register is now idle. If you stop writing data into the output register ( SERDAT ), then this bit will become a 1 after both the word currently in the shift register and the word placed into SERDAT have been transmitted.

This bit is normally used for half-duplex operation.

11      RXD      Direct read of RXD pin on Paula chip.

10                      Not used at this time.

9        STP      Stop bit if 9 data bits are specified for receive.

8        STP      Stop bit if 8 data bits are specified for receive.  
                     OR

DB8      9th data bit if 9 bits are specified for receive.

7-0      DB7-DB0    Low 8 data bits of received data. Data is TRUE (data you read is the same polarity as the data expected).

ADKCON

-----

Bit

Number    Name            Function

-----    ----            -----

15        SET/CLR        Allows setting or clearing individual bits.

If bit 15 is a 1 specified bits are set.

If bit 15 is a 0 specified bits are cleared.

11        UARTBRK       Force the transmit pin to zero.

## 1.41 8 / Serial I/O Interface / How Output Data Is Transmitted

You send data out on the transmit lines by writing into the serial data output register (SERDAT). This register is write-only.



## 1.42 8 / Serial I/O Interface / Specifying The Register Contents

The data to be transmitted is placed in the output register ( SERDAT ). Above the data bits, 1 bits must be added as stop bits. Normally, either one or two stop bits are sent.

The transmission of the start bit is independent of the contents of this register. One start bit is automatically generated before the first data bit (bit 0) is sent.

Writing this register starts the data transmission. If this register is written with all zeros, no data transmission is initiated.

## 1.43 8 Interface Hardware / Parallel I/O Interface

The general-purpose bi-directional parallel interface is a 25-pin connector on the back panel of the computer. This connector is generally used for a parallel printer.

For each data byte written to the parallel port register, the hardware automatically generates a pulse on the data ready pin. The acknowledge pulse from the parallel device is hooked up to an interrupt. For pin connections and timing, see Appendix E and Appendix F .

## 1.44 8 Interface Hardware / Display Output Connections

All Amigas provide a 23-pin connector on the back. This jack contains video outputs and inputs for external genlock devices. Two separate type of RGB video are available on the connector:

- \* RGB Monitors ("analog RGB"). Provides four outputs; Red (R), Green (G), Blue (B), and Sync (S). They can generate up to 4,096 different colors on-screen simultaneously using the circuitry presently available on the Amiga.
- \* Digital RGB Monitors. Provides four outputs, distinct from those shown above, named Red (R), Green (G), Blue (B), Half-Intensity (I), and Sync (S). All output levels are logic levels (0 or 1). On some monitors these outputs allow up to 15 possible color combinations, where the values 0000 and 0001 map to the same output value (Half intensity with no color present is the same as full intensity, no color). Some monitors arbitrarily map the 16 combinations to 16 arbitrary colors.

Note that the sync signals from the Amiga are unbuffered. For use with any device that presents a heavy load on the sync outputs, external buffers will be required.

The Amiga 500 and 2000 provide a full-bandwidth monochrome video jack for use with inexpensive monochrome monitors. The Amiga colors are combined into intensities based on the following table:

---

Red	Green	Blue
---	-----	----
30%	60%	10%

The A3000 is not equipped with a monochrome video jack.

The Amiga 1000 provides an RF modulator jack. An adapter is available that allows all Amiga models to use a television set for display. Stereo sound is available on the jack, but will generally be combined into monaural sound for the TV set.

The Amiga 1000 provides a color composite video jack. This is suitable for recording directly with a VCR, but the output is not broadcast quality. For use on a monochrome monitor, the color information often has undesired effects; careful color selection or a modification to the internal circuitry can improve the results. The A500, A2000 and A3000 do not have a color composite video jack. High quality composite adapters for the A500, A1000, A2000 and A3000 plug into the 23 pin RGB port.

The Amiga 2000 and 3000 provide a special "video slot" that contains many more signals than are available elsewhere: all the 23-pin RGB port signals, the unencoded digital video, light pen, power, audio, colorburst, pixel switch, sync, clock signals, etc.

---