

HowToCode7

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REVISION HISTORY

NUMBER	DATE	DESCRIPTION	NAME

Contents

1	HowToCode7	1
1.1	HowToCode: Kickstart	1

Chapter 1

HowToCode7

1.1 HowToCode: Kickstart

Important Kickstart Differences on Amiga

There are major differences between the early kickstart machines (Kickstart 1.2) and current releases (Kickstart 3.0/3.1)

Important differences:

Size: Kickstart 1.2 was 256Kb. Kickstart 3.0 is 512Kb

Offsets: *EVERYTHING* changes. Do not make any assumptions about any data in rom, for example reset locations, topaz.font data position.

Libraries: Many disk-based libraries under 1.3 are now in ROM, along with disk-validator and other things....

Workbench: Workbench is much improved. Use it.

OS Functions: *Many* new OS functions in all libraries. Now much easier to use, and faster. Much faster than under 1.2/1.3

How to check kickstart:

```
move.l    4.w, a6
move.l    LIB_VERSION(a6), d0
```

d0 now contains version number. Compare with the following (all values in decimal)

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| V0 to V32 | - Obsolete! No longer supported. |
| V33 | - Kickstart 1.2 |
| V34 | - Kickstart 1.3 (1.2 with autoboot for HD) |

- V35 - Early beta-kickstart 1.4. Obsolete
- V36 - Obsolete! Early V2.00-V2.03 supplied with Amiga 3000
 Amiga 3000 owners should upgrade to at least V37
- V37 - Kickstart 2.04. Final release version of Kickstart 2
- (V38) - Workbench 2.1 (exec.library should not show this
 version. All true V38 libraries are disk based)
- V39 - Kickstart 3.0
- V40 - Kickstart 3.1 - Currently only in AmigaCD 32

Do NOT compare numbers directly, eg.

```
cmp.w #39,d0
beq   kickstart3
```

Always check for greater or equal... eg.

```
cmp.w #39,d0
bcc   kickstart3      (bcc = BHIS, branch higher or same, unsigned)
```