

**CatMake**

<b>COLLABORATORS</b>
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<i>ACTION</i>	<i>NAME</i>	<i>DATE</i>	<i>SIGNATURE</i>
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## Chapter 1

# CatMake

### 1.1 CatMake.guide

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```

Rodja Adolph (proudly :) presents a catalogpicturegeneratorscript (uh?!)  
 for AdPro written in ARexx and completed on 09-Dec-94 01:16  
 ...and just another one of these Lettermatcher-Logos :)

Version 1.24 (fifth release)  
 -> PLEASE read the changes,if you already used an older version! <-  
 The changes may contain other useful info which isnt as  
 clearly stated in the body text!  
 Please forgive me my imperfect english.Its not my native language

Introduction  
 Copyright/Contacting the author  
 New versions

A short overview and high-lights  
 Read this!  
 How and where to get new releases/versions

Documentation  
 Troubleshooting  
 History

The actual manual  
 Anything not working as expected?!  
 When was what added/changed?! (read it!)

Index

## 1.2 CatMake.guide/Introduction

### Introduction

CatMake is a script that will allow you the following (and some more) things:

- Create catalogpics of your picture databases which show a smaller representation of your pictures together with their filenames and size+depth so that you can easily identify them and have a quick overview as you may have upto 64\*64 (=4096) in one single catalogpicture and may have each catalog from 20-9999 pixels each in width and height)  
Very useful for SysOps of Picture-BBS's !
- The catalogs can be saved in any rendered and raw format AdPro supports as you may define both the SaveFormat and the actual SaveString manually. This allows e.g. to save a catalog directly to a gfx-card or to use even latest savers...
- The pics to be catalogized may even be (re)rendered and saved with a new extension...
- Multiselect and Wholedirscanning supported
- VERY configurable if you WANT to, as all colors and the fonts can only modified directly in the configfile. (no zillions of requesters...:)
- Thumbnails may be arranged alphabetically (derived from the filenames) or (if using AdPro >= 2.30) customized by easily defining the order in Listviews...Very handy...
- Scaling of thumbnails either in aspect-correct or fit-to-space mode
- Prefs are stored in ENVARC: and may be edited, on startup you may choose to use them or not
- Nice CON:-Output
- ARexx-Hooks to allow a maximum flexibility

and (almost) free (see Copyright notice)

## 1.3 CatMake.guide/Copyright

### Copyright

CatMake is copyrighted in 1993 by Rodja Adolph. All rights reserved.  
As CatMake is Shareware, it may be distributed freely if and only if no charge higher than \$5 is taken for it including media.  
Only Fred-Fish-Library, Saar-Library and AmiNet may take more to cover costs e.g. for the distribution on CD.  
Everyone else who wants to include this script in his distribution that costs more than \$5 has to contact me before releasing it.

If you use CatMake and find it useful, then please register and send 10\$ (or an equal amount in another currency) to the author. You will then receive the latest version of Catmake if you include a disk and padded envelope with extramoney to cover postage or a new version of

Catmake if you include requests for new features i should include.  
If you have email, then i will send you Catmake via email thus not  
requiring disk and postage money... You will also be notified of new  
versions if you want to.

Note : If your local currency isnt dollars either, then please do me a  
favor and send me 20 DM ("Deutschmarks") so that at least i  
can save the exchange fee... Thanx!

You may also ask me to write a special ARexx-Script for you if you  
are in need for one (not only for AdPro...). Im always open for any  
ideas... Impossible stuff will be programmed in hours, miracles take  
some days... (ehh :)

If you have any ideas/bugs/presents/bucks you would like to send to  
me, then there are different ways:

Snail-Mail: Rodja Adolph  
Kölnerstr. 187  
40227 Duesseldorf / Germany  
EMail: ronnie@aworld.aworld.de OR ronnie@IUS.gun.de  
Telephone: +49-211-721285 (Voice)

If you live in Germany, you will probably want to transfer the  
Shareware fee to my account :

Rodja Adolph  
Kto.Nr. : 802 109 016  
Blz : 301 602 13  
Bank : Düsseldorfer Bank eG

Greetings fly out to the dudes from the UseNet who were interested  
in this script and therefore made me writing this doc and such a  
'user-friendly' script :)  
Especially Roger Kanemaru requested some neat things i didnt think of...  
(...These are the users living in Hawaii...;-)  
Furthermore to all my friends esp. Guenter, Melih, Jay and all the others!  
At last a very warm greet to all the dudez in frosty Sweden (sorry Roger  
Eriksson :)  
And not to forget Christian Stieber for his help to upload CatMake to  
AmiNet!  
\*New\* : I welcome Charles Bellen from Belgium to the registered  
"CatMake-Posse@"

So long and have phun with this little script,

Rodja Adolph

## 1.4 CatMake.guide/New\_Versions

CatMake is a program that is under continous development. So its kinda  
likely that the version that you just got is "outdated" (that doesnt  
mean that your version isnt working or lacks basic features. It just  
means that special features and/or even better/more flexible options/  
functions could have been added in the meantime. This process wont stop

---

as long as i get input from YOU. So please contact me if you can think of something you would like to see in a program like this.

The fastest way to get a new version is to contact directly me via email. Look in the Copyright section for my email address. This would allow me to send you new version automatically (though you should be a registered user!).

New releases should also be available on AmiNet (keep in mind that version isn't the same as release... "versions" tend to be "beta" aka as buggy...

You may even find CatMake on PD-Libraries like FreshFish CD's or SAAR-AG disks/CD's.

If nothing helps, then you can order a new version (as registered user) by snail mail including money for postage and disk or postage only but then including a disk...

## 1.5 CatMake.guide/Documentation

Before you run CatMake the first time, you should read the whole guidefile. Especially the history-section is very important as it will always contain information that isn't or not as intense stated in the main document (starting here). (be warned :)

Installation

Usage/Processing

Prefsfile

Hooks

## 1.6 CatMake.guide/Installation

To install, either rename the script (CatMake) to something like f3.adpro (to bind it to the F3-Key; see AdPro-Doc for details) and copy it to AdPro: or copy it to the AdPro:Commands2/ directory to bind it into AdPro's UserMenu (since V2.5) or launch it e.g. from a shell with RX or any other way you can think of...

CatMake will open a CON: window for it's text-output which is rather nice (IMO).

Since version 1.11 CatMake also supports an argument line so that CatMake can be run without any disturbing requesters (besides of error-requesters). See Usage for details...

## 1.7 CatMake.guide/Usage

---

If you start the script without having a prefsfile ENVARC:CatMakeAdPro.prefs then internal defaults will be used that should work on every system. Anyway you'll be asked if you want to use the defaults completely or not. Completely means that you only have to provide the dir with the files, basename for the catalogs and tiling-mode and CatMake will directly start. Partial means that you have to provide every value manually but defaults will be used whenever possible as defaults for your input so that you don't need to enter everything from scratch although you only wanted to change e.g. the dirmode (and the rest as the defaults...). If you select 'Partial' then the following requesters will pop up asking you lots of stuff :

---

```
'Do you want to handle a whole directory?'
'OK=Whole          Cancel=Manually'
```

'OK' would convert a whole directory of pictures to be catalogized, while 'Cancel' would allow single/series of files to be selected to process only.

---

```
'Catalog SFORMAT-String ?'
```

Here you enter the SaveFormatString as discussed in the ARexxDoc of AdPro for the catalogpictures. Examples are : IFF,GIF,JPEG etc. If you have a later version of AdPro (>=2.30) then a ListView will appear...

---

```
'What type of File is that type ?'
'OK=IMAGE          or          Cancel=RAW'
```

This defines if the catalogs will be rendered or not. 'OK' would render (2-256 cols + HAM and stuff), whereas 'Cancel' would save the raw data (either color 24 Bit or black&white 8 Bit) With certain savers this requester may not pop up (e.g. the JPEG saver doesn't support anything else than RAW-Mode...)

---

```
' Shall the images be sized to '
'fit each tile completely or to'
' be sized aspect-correctly? '
'OK=Fit            or  Cancel=Aspect'
```

This defines how the thumbnails on the catalogs will look like. If using "Fit", then each image will be scaled to perfectly fit the space reserved for each thumbnail. However this may produce some strange effects if the images to be catalogized don't "match" the dimensions for the thumbnails. For this reason you may also select "Aspect" which will preserve the width/height aspect of the images. To make it short : "Fit" may put a circle to an ellipse and "Aspect" leaves circles circles...

---

```
'Width of Catalogs' (20-9999)
```

Defines the width in pixels of each catalog

---

```
'Height of Catalogs' (20-9999)
```

Defines the height in pixels of each catalog

---

---

```
'Make Color or Black&White'
'    Catalog-Picture?    '
'OK=Color    Cancel=BW'
```

Here you select if you want to use colors or only B&W shades

---

```
'How many Colors?' (2-256) (Doesnt appear if RAW-Mode)
```

Defines how many shades in the desired colormode are used for the final catalogs.

Note : The thumbnails (minatures of the pics for each catalog) are all processed in raw-mode and only rendered (if desired) after composing of the whole catalog so that you always get the maximum quality (i.e. color-spectrum) for each catalog.

You may also define strings HAM,HAM8,EHB,CUST

If you have a later version of AdPro (>=2.30) then a ListView will appear...

This requester doesnt pop-up if you select RAW-Mode for the catalogs.

---

```
'Add a headerstring to each catalog?'
```

This lets you decide if you want to have a Header on each catalog that will be on top of each catalog and seperated by the thumbnails. This could e.g. be your BBS-Name and number or some other info such as copyrightnotices.

If you select "OK",then the following 2 requesters will pop-up:

```
'Enter headerstring'
```

Here you enter the string used as Header for each catalog.

```
'Center headerstring horizontally?'
```

If you choose "OK",then the Header will be centered.If you choose "Cancel",then the following requester will pop-up:

```
'X-Offset in Pixels?'
```

Use this to define the starting position of the Header beginning at the left (0 would put it directly on the left side).Try a value around 10 for a good-looking left-alignment

---

```
'    Do you want to also    '
'save as alternate Images ?'
' (Under diff. filenames) '
```

Defines whether or not you want to (re)render the pictures to be catalogized,so that you can e.g. convert your GIF library into IFFs on the fly...The resulting requests are selfexplaining

Nice : If the source images already have an extension preceeded with a '.',then that extension will be removed and replaced by the given one.Note that only if the old and the new extension are equal,then the old file gets overwritten.So think about that so that you dont loose files by mistake.This IS useful if you e.g. want to catalogize and (re)render some hundred megabytes with only a few left on your HD.Then you would just have to make sure that all pics have the same extension and then enter as extension for the (re)rendered images simply the same (not case sensitive) so that you wont end up with having every file two times (and a possible

---

'Volume is full' error)....

Remember that AdPro doesnt need correct extensions for images to be loaded in correctly (well at least the "common" loaders...).So it's OK to rename e.g. a .JPEG file to a .GIF file to have the same extension for all images...

-----  
If CatMake wasnt started with an argument-line,then the following requesters will pop-up.If not,then they WILL pop-up (regardless of what you decided for using the prefs or not)  
-----

Depending on either Multi-Select mode or Whole-Dir scanning,you are now asked for the images to be catalogized.This will be acomplished with a file/directory-requester.Note that when in Multi-Select mode you may hold down the Shift-Key to select more than one entry.Some requesters also support dragging over files to Multi-Select (like MFR)

-----  
If you have AdPro 2.30 or later and selected "Partial" for the config usage,then a requester will now pop-up asking for the sorting-mode:

'Use alphabetical or custom sorting?'  
' OK=Custom Cancel=Alpha '

"Alpha" will sort the thumbnails left to right,top to bottom in alphabetical order as derived from the actual filename (path is not taken in account).

"Custom" will (later on) ask you to select the files in a custom order by using ListViews to select the files from.You will be presented with all files selected/found and begin to double-click on the entry you want to appear first on your catalog(s).Then a new ListView shows up with all but the just selected entry.You then select the next entry in your custom order and so on...

If you have an older version than 2.30 of AdPro,then alphabetical sorting is used.

-----  
Next thing asked is the catalogbasename using a file-requester. The path for the catalogs defaults to the one where the images are located.Unfortunately you may select whatever path and filename that you desire.Note that the catalogbasename should end with an extension bordering character (best-choice is ".") if you also want to have the index-number (that will be added if you create more than one catalog) seperated by such an character.In most cases one would not use such a character as the file-type extension (taken from the used Saver-Format) will be bordered by a "." itself...Just test it! Note that a recognized catalogfilename (or better all) will also be removed from the list of the images to be catalogized.This allows you to have the catalogs of your pictures in the same directory as the images and also alllowng to run CatMake each time you have new files over these directories without catalogizing the catalogs...  
-----

If you didnt start CatMake with an argument line,it may happen at this point that you're informed that the entered catalogbasename collides with already existing catalogs.You may then decide to either overwrite or rename the old one(s).  
-----

Next thing asked (if you didnt start CatMake with an argument line) is the tiling.The tiling defines how many thumbnails will be put on each

---

catalog.You may define the number of catalogs in width and height seperately.

If you have AdPro 2.30 or later,then a nice ListView will be shown presenting you some suitable default tilings and 2 other entries. The first is named "Auto" and will adapt the tiling so that that all images to be catalogized will fit on ONE single catalog.The tiling is calculated to have an almost equal number of tiles in height as in width,with the number in the width increasing first. The other special entry is called "Custom" and will start the same two requesters that are only shown if you have an older version than AdPro 2.30.

Note that the title in the ListView shows you the number of files that will be processed.

-----  
At this point a possible Custom-Sorting is invoked.See the section where you define "Custom" or "Alpha" sorting for details.Note that you only have to define the order until the last entry (logical!).  
-----

Finally the files are processed.

The script switches to the WB-Screen so that you can observe the current state of the conversion.Note the information given in the window's title-bar.It shows how many catalogs will be created and how many thumbnails are on each (the last one may have less than the number stated...)

After the whole thing is finished the CON: will close after some seconds.

If any error should occur during the operation,CatMake will notify you you with a requester and eventually save the configfile,depending on how you configured your settings.

## 1.8 CatMake.guide/Prefs

Last thing about CatMake is it's Prefsfile that is stored in ENVARC: (NOT in ENV: !!!) and is named CatMakeAdPro.prefs

Following is a sample config with additional information:

Note that not everything is asked for while running the script but some things can only be defined in this prefs-file.One thing is e.g. the used Font and loads of color-definitions.If Catmake cant find this file,it will use internal defaults and after finishing its job create the prefsfile automatically.

The first line holds the version of the prefsfile.If the version is lower than the one needed for CatMake,then Catmake will inform you and ask what to do (use internal settings or exit).

-----  
Version 1.4

These are the current default settings for R.Adolph's CatalogGenerator written in ARexx for use with The Art Department Pro

FontPrefs

Fontname	= Topaz	;The font to be used for the Filename-Texts
Fontsize	= 8	;The size of that font
Fonttype	= BITMAPPED	;The type,either BITMAPPED or SCALED
TextR	= 255	;3 values defining the RGB color for the
TextG	= 255	; filenames that are rendered

```

TextB           = 255
Size            = YES                ;YES/NO/RIGHT/BOTTOM switches size-rendering
Size_Fontname   = Topaz              ;The font to be used for the Image-Sizes
Size_Fontsize   = 8                  ;The size of that font
Size_Fonttype   = BITMAPPED          ;The type,either BITMAPPED or SCALED
SizeR           = 255                ;3 values defining the RGB color for the
SizeG           = 255                ; sizes and depths that are rendered
SizeB           = 255
Seperate        = YES                ;Seperate text from thumbnail or mix them
Header          = NO                 ;Use a Header or not
HeaderFontname  = FUTURAB            ;Font used for the Header
HeaderFontSize  = 16                 ;Fontsize
HeaderFonttype  = BITMAPPED          ;Type
HeaderEmboss    = OUT                ;Embossdirection (see AdPro manual)
HeaderEmbAmnt   = 100                ;Embossamount 0-100
HeaderTxtstyle  = 0                  ;Textstyle (see AdPro manual)
HeaderOffset    = 1                  ;Possible offset from left border in pixel
CenterHeader    = YES                ;Center Header horizontally or not
HeaderR         = 165                ;Color for Header (and "Corrupt"-String)
HeaderG         = 165
HeaderB         = 160
HeaderString    = Created with CatMake © R. Adolph in 1994 ;Actual Header

Other
DirMode         = WHOLE              ;Desired DirMode,either WHOLE or MULTI
Sorting         = ALPHA              ;Sortingmode either ALPHA or CUSTOM
SaveOnError     = YES                ;Save config if error occurs
ProceedOnError  = YES                ;Dont quit if loading-error or do quit
ProceedErrStr   = Corrupted!         ;This string is shown instead (if loadererror)
StripMode       = BLUBB+             ;reserved
TempDir         = T:                 ;Files for temporary data (maybe a lot MBs!)

Catalogprefs
CatalogBase     = _Catalog.          ;CatalogFilesBasename
SFormat-String  = IFF                ;SaveFormat-String like IFF,GIF,JPEG
AddSaverString  = YES                ;Add string to filenames or not
SaveMode        = IMAGE              ;SaveMode-String like IMAGE,RAW
RawMode         = COLOR              ;RGB or B&W,either COLOR or BLACKWHITE
SizeMode        = ABSOLUTE           ;ABSOLUTE or RELATIVE,abs.=fit rel.=aspect
Colors          = 256                ;Number of shades (2-256) or HAM etc.
CatalogWidth    = 640
CatalogHeight   = 480
X-Tiles         = 4                  ;Number of tiles along X-Axis
Y-Tiles         = 4                  ;Number of tiles along Y-Axis
TileMode        = Auto                ;Only for >=2.30 of AdPro and defines the
                                      ;default in the ListView.Possible is one
                                      ;of : 3x2 3x3 4x3 4x4 5x4 5x5 6x5 6x6
                                      ; Custom Auto
BorderR         = 255                ;Defining the RGB-Color values for
BorderG         = 255                ; the frames around the thumbnails
BorderB         = 150
Mixing          = 40                 ;Defining the Mixvalue 0-100 between
MixR            = 0                  ; MixRGB and actual image.
MixG            = 0                  ;Defining the RGB-Color values for the
MixB            = 80                 ; background-rectangle for rendered text
BackgroundlR    = 0                  ;Defining the global background for each
BackgroundlG    = 0                  ;catalog.4 triples defining a 4-point

```

---

```

Background1B    = 0                ;gradient-fill (BACKDROP).You will most
Background2R    = 0                ;probably like to set every triple to
Background2G    = 0                ;the same values to get a monochrome
Background2B    = 0                ;(one color) background
Background3R    = 0
Background3G    = 0
Background3B    = 0
Background4R    = 0
Background4G    = 0
Background4B    = 0
Back2Pos        = 50               ;Currently not supported (for BACKILINE)
BackDirection   = S               ;Currently not supported (for BACKILINE)

Rerenderprefs
MakeAlternate   = NO              ;Whether or not (re)rendering is done
RenderedColors  = 256             ;According to already known things...
SFormat-String  = JPEG
SaveMode        = RAW
Extension       = jpg

```

---

Note (another one :) that the values aren't checked that much. This has the advantage that you could e.g. use more than 64 tiles...just edit the prefs and use them...But you should know what you do as strange values may mess up the whole catalog...

A lot of explanation to the above yet unmentioned features is given in the history section. Please read the history if you haven't done yet.

## 1.9 CatMake.guide/Hooks

From version 1.07 on CatMake supports several hooks to include custom ARExx-Code while CatMake processes images and catalogs.

There's NO need to have these scripts, but if one or more exist, then they will be called at certain points. The scripts have to be located in a drawer assigned to "REXX:"

The scripts and their points of invocation :

REXX:CatMakePrePicLoad.rexx

Will be started everytime before a picture that shall be catalogized is to be loaded. You could for example do special compositions with this by composing pictures to dummy files you already had existing and selected them to be catalogized. Or for checking for completion of e.g. a rendering before a picture is finally closed and therefore ready to be catalogized.

The filename of the picture that will be loaded after calling this script will be passed as argumentline to the script. See end of chapter for details.

REXX:CatMakePostPicLoad.rexx

This one will be launched AFTER a picture to be catalogized has been loaded into AdPro. You could e.g. delete that picture in this script as you may have selected to rerender it or you don't need it anyways. This script also receives the path+name of the just loaded picture as argumentline.

REXX:CatMakePreAltProcess.rexx

Will be called before alternate image-representation is build.

Only called if (Re-)Rendering is enabled

REXX:CatMakePreAddheader.rexx

This is called before an optional header is added (ONLY if one shall be added).

This hook provides some extra magic as you can modify the headerstring from within this script. Usually it's not possible to modify variables from another ARExx-Script within one.

To solve this problem, you may use the SETCLIP() command in this script to set the Clip called "CatMakeHeader" to a desired headerstring.

The script gets the number of the current catalog as argument. See the following examplescript to see why...

An example script REXX:CatMakePreAddheader.rexx could look like this :

```
/* This will change the headerstring accordingly with each catalog */
PARSE ARG CatNumber
SELECT
  WHEN CatNumber=1 THEN PartHeader="the first"
  WHEN CatNumber=2 THEN PartHeader="the second"
  WHEN CatNumber=3 THEN PartHeader="the third"
  OTHERWISE PartHeader="another"
END
NewHeader="This is "||PartHeader||" catalogpicture"
CALL SETCLIP("CatMakeHeader",NewHeader)
/*****
```

REXX:CatMakePreCatRender.rexx

This one will be called right before the EXECUTE to render a catalog.

If the catalog shall be saved in RAW-Format, then this script WONT be called. This script gets the number of the current catalog as argument (first catalog is number 1 (not 0))

REXX:CatMakePreCatSave.rexx

This one will be called before a catalogpicture is saved to disk and it gets the catalogpicture path and filename as argument.

The catalogfilename and path are also available in this script using a CLIP. The Clip is called "CatMakeCatName". You may ReSet this Clip to change the filename/path under which the next catalog will be saved. This allows you to preserve existing catalogs and use a new index-number (that doesn't collide with the existing ones).

REXX:CatMakePostCatSave.rexx

This one is called directly after saving a catalogpicture and it gets the catalogpicture path and filename as argument.

The mentioned arguments can be used in the scripts by using the PARSE-Command in the scripts.

For example :

```
/* A test */
PARSE ARG Filename
SAY Filename
EXIT
```

This way of external scripts allows the advanced user to add special features to CatMake and to allow CatMake to be extremely flexible.

If you dont know how to write ARexx-Scripts, then just ask me to write one for a specific problem... If it's useful enough, I will include it into the next ditribution. Currently (28th of April) no Hook-Script is included within CatMake, but several things are going to be as soon as i get more requests/registrations/time...

## 1.10 CatMake.guide/Troubleshooting

- If CatMake should show "24" as color-depth even if the source-images didnt have 24 bits but e.g. 32 colors (=5 bits) then check out if the color-depth in AdPro (since V2.5) is locked. If so, then unlock it and it should work then.
- If, when using additional sizestring, the filename and the size/depth of each thumbnail overwrite themselves, then there's too few space in one line for both. Therefore you can use SIZE = BOTTOM instead of SIZE = RIGHT in the prefsfile which will put the two string under each other. If this does not suite your taste, you could use the StripExtension = YES in the prefsfile to possibly get some extraspace that is stripped off of the filenames. If you still have not enough space but dont want to drop the size-string or if w/o it you have even too few space for the filename, then you will need to use a smaller font... There are fonts around in sizes of as few as 6! Always try to use proportional fonts as they take up less space.
- If you have problems concerning multi-selecting files and nothing gets loaded IF you use MFR as replacement for default filereqs, then try setting MFRMode=1 in line 27 of the CatMake-ARexxScript itself. Or add a tooltype in MFR's icon 'REJECT=AdPro' depending if you do or do not need a MFR when multi-selecting files...
- The catalogs will be rendered (if they ought to be) in the mode that is selected before the script is run (the buttons in the bottom right corner of AdPro...) so that you can easily have the screenmode and screenprefs you desire.  
This also includes dithering. If you dont want dithering, then you have to set AdPro to not dither anything. I recommend using Floyd-Steinberg.
- If your wildcard does not filter the way you expected it, then have a look on the special Wildcard section!

If an error occurs, CatMake will most certainly inform you of that with a requester. This means that CatMake could at least locate the error in some way.

Following is a list of possible error-requesters and what they "could" mean:

```
'Prefs-File is not Up2Date !'
' Version needed : x.y'
' Version found : u.v'
'Use the Built-In defaults?'
```

This one informs you that the loaded configfile isnt in a up2date version. From time to time new versions of CatMake need new versions of configfiles as their format may change considerably. However you may decide to use the built-in defaults for the session. If you decide to do so, then after CatMake quits (either due to an error or not) a correct prefs-file will be written to disk. So this is recommended.

(no real list yet...The other requesters themself give a possible short explanation of what could went wrong (im not a decent document writer, am I?!))

## 1.11 CatMake.guide/WildCards

Since everyone uses different Shells or comes from different roots when it comes to wildcards (like ARP, various Shells etc.), it's sometimes a pain in the ass to remember the very special syntax of the new AmigaOS' wildcards...

So here some examples about the wildcards :

If you want to filter out all icons, you have to set a wildcard that includes anything BUT these #?.info files. Therefore you have to invert the "#?.info" wildcard. You do this by putting the inverting char "~" in front of it BUT you have to put the "positive" wildcard in brackets to group it for the "~" to work properly :

```
~(#?.info)
```

If you haven't set the Wildstar-Flag with some of the many Utils around, then you MUST use "#?" for "anything". If, however you set this flag, then you may choose to use either a "\*" OR "#?" for "anything" (in the latter case you could even mix "\*" and "#?" in the same wildcard).

If you only want to catalog \*.gif AND \*.iff, then you have to build a enumeration using the "|" char INSIDE a group. You can use as many "|" as you want i.o. to specify as many different wildcards as you want :

```
(*.gif|*.iff)
```

If you want to specify a range (either a numerical or alphabetical one), then you have to put your range definition inside square brackets "[ ]". Please note that a range ONLY represents ONE single char. So you may only use single chars/digits to define a range. If you want to specify more than only one digit/char, then you have to define multiple ranges :

```
X-Rated_(%|[1-2])[5-7].#?
```

Now what the butt is this?!

It's useful for your precious chick-collie...but what do these swear words mean?! OK read it from the left to the right and you have it : The first chars of the filenames have to be "X-Rated\_". Then you see the grouping-bracket and thus we find the end-of-group ")". Inside that group we have an OR-condition and it says "%|[1-2]". This means that the next char may either be "nothing" (that's what the "%" means) OR something that is inside the specified RANGE. This range only defines the digits 1 and 2 to be true. Thus the first char after the "X-Rated\_" may be either "nothing", a "1" or a "2". After that group we have another RANGE. And this range defines 5 to 7 as true. Therefore the 2nd char after

"X-Rated\_" may be either 5,6 or 7.After that again a simple extension filter is applied ".#?".This means that any filename ALSO must have a "." as 3rd char after "X-Rated\_".

The wildcard is true for ONLY the following filenames:

- X-Rated\_5.#?
- X-Rated\_6.#?
- X-Rated\_7.#?
- X-Rated\_15.#?
- X-Rated\_16.#?
- X-Rated\_17.#?
- X-Rated\_25.#?
- X-Rated\_26.#?
- X-Rated\_27.#?

Kinda special wildcard,no?

To read some more stuff about this,consult your AmigaDOS manual.For the 3.0 manuals it is chapter 1-11 (at least in the german edition).

## 1.12 CatMake.guide/History

Version History :

- V1.0 First Release
- V1.01
- V1.02 Second Release (uploaded to UseNet : c/s/a/graphics)
- V1.03 Third Release (uploaded to some requesting people...)
- V1.04 Fourth Release (sent to Fred Fish for inclusion on CD)
- V1.05 ATTENTION : CATMAKE IS \*NOW\* SHAREWARE (10\$) !
- V1.06
- V1.07
- V1.08
- V1.09
- V1.10
- V1.11
- V1.12
- V1.13
- V1.14
- V1.15
- V1.16
- V1.17
- V1.18 Documentation is now a Guide-File rather than plain ASCII.  
Fifth Release (AmiNet : pub/aminet/gfx/misc/CatMake118.lha)
- V1.19
- V1.20
- V1.21
- V1.22
- V1.23
- V1.24

## 1.13 CatMake.guide/History/V1.01

- V1.01 : - Changed the way the values for the (Re)Rendering are queried.  
Now the default for the extension is somewhat more intelligent (internal)
- Adapted the string that is used in the Output-CON: title-bar.  
If only one catalog is to be created, then only the actual number of images will be shown and correct singular is used.  
Just cosmetic...

## 1.14 CatMake.guide/History/V1.02

- V1.02 : - Added rendering of the source images size to the thumbnails.  
That means that you can see how big the corresponding image actually is. Therefore i added prefs for an alternate font that may be the same as the first, but in general it should be the smallest one you have. It only needs numbers and the small 'x' to work properly. Changed doc to reflect this...
- If an extension is detected with a leading '.', then the '.' will be truncated.
  - Cosmetic changes to requesters... (centered)
  - A minor bug fixed : Length of actual textline to be rendered wasn't calculated correctly as the previous string was used for calcing. As the text (until now) was always left aligned, this didn't have any visible results. Now the size is a right-aligned string and i discovered the bug when the length of the filename (in pixels) was taken as measurement for aligning the size-string (which is usually kinda smaller)... Don't bother if you don't understand this one :)

## 1.15 CatMake.guide/History/V1.03

- V1.03 : - If a picture couldn't be loaded, then CatMake stopped processing.  
Now it proceeds with the next picture (if none could be loaded, then nothing will happen)  
Reported by Tom Henderson
- The routine for the size-rendering had a minor but fatal bug.  
The string wasn't right-aligned but left-aligned as the Filename.
  - Added rendering of the source image's color-depth (in bitplanes).  
So 640x480x24 means a 24 Bit Source-Image. (256BW=Raw B/W data)
  - Now Files containing spaces also work  
Reported by G.Hagedorn
  - If catalogs already exist that have the same basename like the one currently used, then the user is asked to decide either to overwrite these or to rename them (automatically :).  
Requested by G.Hagedorn
  - This will allow you (if you stick to the same CatBase) to just reroll on your directorys without caring about the already existing catalog-pictures as they are ignored and renamed/replaced if they have the same CatBase as your current setting. Even backed up Catalogs (still the same base) will be recognized as such and simply ignored (no requester popping up). Only if you have a already existing catalog and one with a .bak and then
-

- create a new one, then you are probably (hehe) queried but one file would be lost of the two already existing. So don't mess around too much with CatMake in your pic-librarys ;-)
- If you still wanna have 'recursive' Catalogs, then just choose another CatBase
- Changed the way text is rendered to the thumbnails. Now it is rendered into the complete catalog instead of being rendered to each thumbnail before composing. This allows the new scaling-mode:
  - Added new scalingmode called 'Relative' (queried by user and stored/editable in the prefs-file) that will keep the original aspect of each image to be catalogized. That is not fitting each thumbnail in its whole dimension as the old/other scalingmode ('Absolute') did. Can be useful if the images don't have a similar aspect as the thumbnails to prevent strong deformations. Just test it and check which one you like best...  
Requested by Tom Henderson
  - If the second font is bigger than the first one, the display got messed as the size of the first font was used for calculating only. Now the bigger one of both is taken for such...
  - Added MORE (hehe) options to the prefs-file. They are 3 different Color-Settings to best suit your personal taste. The other one is the Mixing-Value. It defines in pct (0-100) the amount of mixing between the given color for the background-area (MixRGB) and the image itself.  
Requested by G.Hagedorn

## 1.16 CatMake.guide/History/V1.04

- V1.04 : - A minor bug didn't allow filenames shorter than 3 chars. I found it after catalogizing a dir with number-only-files and CatMake couldn't find any :)
- CatMake will now first ask for the files, then inform you of the number and afterwards let's you decide the tiling.  
Requested by Tom Henderson (the one who only wants one catalog at a time :)  
In the Tiling-Requesters you will see how many files there are to be catalogized, also.
  - If you have AdPro 2.30 or later, then instead of the two tiling-requesters CatMake will show you a ListView with some default tilings and a selection named 'Custom' that allows the integer input as in older versions of CatMake (and for <2.30 users).
  - Another thing that only applies to >=2.30 users is the fact that in the above mentioned ListView you'll also have an 'Auto' entry that will automatically set tiling in that way so that ALL images will fit in one single catalog-picture.  
The used tiling will be the square-root of the number of images plus a possible rounding tolerance. Imagined that could be of use for dudes like Tom Henderson :) (No I have NOT found a squareroot function in the default ARexx-Commandset...;-)
  - If the user has AdPro 2.30 or later, then instead of color and Save-Strings the user may choose with a ListView from available modes/savers...
  - Note : Spaces in filenames do only work when using either Whole-DirMode or MFRMode=1 as AdPro doesn't use special chars between

filenames when using GETFILES()...

## 1.17 CatMake.guide/History/V1.05

V1.05 : - Added Configfile-Versionchecking as Roger Kanemaru had some big probs with a new CatMake and an old configfile...This one's 4 u :)

## 1.18 CatMake.guide/History/V1.06

V1.06 : Again added some features requested by Roger Kanemaru :)

- If only one Catalog is to be created, then no extension will be added to the CatalogBasename. It's logic, isn't it?!
- The background for ALL thumbnails (i.e. whole catalogs) may be a lot more customized now. For this reason I CHANGED THE CONFIGFILE (once again :) CatMake would complain...but who knows...OK  
You may define 3 new color-triples that match the 3 triples you would enter in the Backline-Loader in AdPro itself. If you want a black background, then this means you have to zero each of the 9. The next variable you may set is called Back2Pos and defines the position of the second color-triple in relation to the first and last. It may be a value of 0 to 100 (percentage).  
Also attached to the Backline-Loader is the BackDir variable which defines the direction of a possible gradient. This may be one of : NW N NE E SE S SW W  
Note that if using black/white catalogs, then a possible gradient or color itself will be greyscaled properly...  
All these 11 variables can ONLY be set directly in the configfile!
- >ATTENTION : Since there seems to be a problem with the Backline-Loader in AdPro 2.5, I temporarily changed from BACKLINE to BACKDROP. This means that "BackDir" and "Back2Pos" have currently no meaning but they still have to be set to something. The Color-Triples are extended to four for the 4 corners of the backdrop gradient fill. I will eventually add support for both, backdrop and backline in the next version...Confused?! Never mind...:)  
Just set all four triples to the same values to get a monochrome background...
- New feature : If you want to have the text-line separated from the thumbnail (thus not overwriting anything...), then select the new "Seperate"-Mode. Can only be set in the configfile directly (like all the other special settings...). Either "YES" or "NO"  
If set to NO, then CatMake behaves like it did before...  
In Seperate-Mode the text will be bordered from the actual thumbnail by a line in the color of the grid
- Added customizable sorting. Until now only alphabetical sorting was supporting. Now you may select if you want to do so or not.  
If not, then (ONLY if using AdPro 2.30 or later) a Listview will show up with all entries. You then select the first (doubleclick) entry that should be used. After that the Listview will be closed after which a new will open showing all but the just selected entry. Repeat this until the Listview won't show up again or hit CANCEL. The setting (ALPHA or CUSTOM) will be stored in the config.
- Added a variable to the configfile called "SaveOnError" which

---

- will let CatMake save the configfile after an error occurred. This may be leading to further errors if you invoke CatMake again with these saved settings. This will be the cause if the values fetched from a configfile produce errors. However, CatMake will try to save a proper and up2date configfile (at least a correct template). This may make it easier to find possible errors in these settings. Can only be set directly in the configfile, is located at the last line and either set to "YES" or "NO"
- Rewrote the scaling-engine completely... Much cleaner now. Even better than the old one in some cases

## 1.19 CatMake.guide/History/V1.07

- V1.07 : - Added several hooks to implement custom ARexx-Code at some positions during the processing. Read the Hooks section for more information!

## 1.20 CatMake.guide/History/V1.08

- V1.08 : - Added support for an optional text-header that will be rendered in top of every catalog and seperated in it's own section and rendered with several parameters. The actual font and size are defined in the config, but the string and some flags for it are also defined with requesters while running CatMake. Therefore changed configfileformat...
- Changed way of catalogfilename generation so that it's optional if the saverstring for catalogs will be added at the very end of each catalogfilename or not. If both an indexnumber and this saverstring are added, then both are seperated by a '.'
  - To get more control i added color-prefs for all three different strings (filename, size, header) to the configfile...
  - Added heavy control over the headerstring. In fact you may set Emboss direction and amount and the textstyle for the Headerstring in the configfile. Refer to your AdPro ARexx-Manual for detailed description of possible values... They all default to a plain normal setting... So dont bother... Added for "Power"-Users...
  - Roger Kanemaru asked for possibility to have different headers for each catalog... As solution i added another special hook called "REXX:CatMakePreAddheader.rexx" (ARexx-Script). It allows you to change the headerstring to whatever you want. As it also gets the current catalog-number as argument, it's easy to change the headerstring for each catalog. See the Hooks-Section in this document and esp. about THIS script for details and example!!!
  - A PreRelease for Roger had a minor bug : When CatMake envoked a requester to ask for the Headerstring, it failed... This also resulted in a false Catalogheight saved to the prefs if SaveOnError was enabled... Fixed this...

## 1.21 CatMake.guide/History/V1.09

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V1.09 : - Argh! Sorting didnt work at all (alphabetical).But as Multiselect results in sorted lists,i didnt notice it.Only when using whole Dirs,then the resulting filelist isnt sorted by the command itself and therefore if my personal sorting does not work (and it didnt), then only then you would notice anything...What it was?! - Easy! I snapped the routine out of another program and there the names of the variables were different.And i forget to change the most important variablename that goes thru the files and searches for the "maximum"...OK...Works now...Finally...

- Improved some errorhandling (added some hints for reasons for failure)
- Picturenames with double slashes will be converted to ones with single slashes ("/" -> "/")
- When asked for prefs for (Re-)Rendering,then a more logical way is used now. Matches also better to the Catalog-Prefs
- A possibly set up Headerstring wasnt shown as default when using the requester to enter it...At first i thought it would be nice to have a kind of reminder as CatMake is Shareware...Now i think it's stupid and therefore the last used Headerstring will be given as default...
- Added an internal cosmetic change.If in RAW-Mode (wherever),then the number of colors will be set to a correct value...Doesnt affect anything at all...
- Added an internal change to configfile.It's a line in the "Other"-Section.Dont care about it yet...  
(It will allow you to have limited filenames e.g. for all these PC-BBS's around (8 chars + 3 char-extension))

## 1.22 CatMake.guide/History/V1.10

V1.10 : - Added new option that will proceed catalogizing even if an error occurs while loading a picture (for whatever reason...).If you set this option,then instead of the image a centered textstring will be rendered (but not touching the filename...so you can see which files need a check...).The string defaults to "Corrupted !", may be set in the config together with the enable/disable flag in the "Other"-Section and the prefs for the headerstring (regardless whether or not you enable a headerstring) (font,size,color etc.) are used.The background for that image will be a backdrop created with the same params as the backdrop used for each catalog.This looks kinda cool if you use a color-gradient as backdrop...  
Note that the size and depth rendered to such thumbnails wont show the size and depth of the image that couldnt be loaded but rather the size and depth of the replacement image...Of course only if you enable size/depth rendering...

## 1.23 CatMake.guide/History/V1.11

V1.11 : - CatMake didnt work when MFRMode=0 (default) and using multiselect mode and only selecting one item.  
- If e.g. using tiling 3x3 AND using a Headerstring,then the very right

---

column of each catalog got lost which resulted in each rightmost thumbnail to have an right-opened rectangle and the rectangle surrounding the headerstring being opened also.

- Added the possibility to start CatMake with arguments so that you can use CatMake even in batch files to run catalogizations fully automatical (no requesters but error-requesters).The systax is:  
CatMake [<CatBase>,<TileMode>,<DirMode> <FileData>]

CatBase is the basename for the catalogs with COMPLETE pathname!  
Tilemode can be one of two types.Either a direct tilingmode like 2x3 3x3 6x6 etc. OR the keyword AUTO which will place all pictures on one single catalogpicture.

DirMode is either WHOLE or MULTI.If WHOLE,then FileData defines a DIRECTORYname,if MULTI,then FileData is a list of strings,EACH included in quotes and each defining ONE filename WITH complete pathname!

This allows you to even catalogize files from more than one dir in one pass.

Mind the "," between the first three arguments,BUT a space between DirMode and FileData!!!

Possible calls :

RX CatMake.rexx

The normal way...Results in some requesters or more...

RX CatMake.rexx RAM:Catalog.,4x4,WHOLE Data:Pics/

Catalogizes all files in Data:Pics/ in 4x4 tiling and saves the catalogs to RAM:

RX CatMake.rexx RAM:Catalog.,AUTO,MULTI "Data:Pics/Nice.GIF" "Work:New.IFF"

Same as above,but puts all images on one catalog and only processes the two given pictures

- Sometimes (in very special situations...) it could happen that the desired catalogpictureheight got smaller than entered and this value got saved to the prefs so that if you used the prefs the next time using CatMake,the catalogpictures would have get smaller also.This was due to Headerstrings...Works now 100%
- The "CatMakePreCatSave.rexx"-Hook may now change the filename of the catalog that is saved next (after the hook is called).Therefore another CLIP has been added.It's called "CatMakeCatName".To see how you can use a CLIP,see the main-document Hook-Section!  
This hook now also gets the filename/path as argument (it's the same string as the CLIP hold,but i also added it)  
For this feature to function properly,the checking if a catalog already exists is DISABLED IF CatMake is invoked with arguments from a shell (so that a possible requester WONT interrupt but the user has to care for that by himself (or the catalogs get overwritten))  
However recognized catalogs wont be catalogized anyway.So you just have to care for the naming of the new catalogs...Just use the same basename all the time and you can easily run CatMake whenever you want over your picture-library using CatMake with an argumentline.  
If you e.g. have 3 picture directories:  
Data:Pics/X-Rated/ , Work:Downloaded/ToDo/ , BBS:Tracings/  
and want to have catalogs created/updated to the current state of these,you could use the following batch:

Run AdPro:AdPro

```
RX CatMake.rexx Data:Pics/X-Rated/Catalog.,4x4,WHOLE Data:Pics/X-Rated/
RX CatMake.rexx Work:Downloaded/ToDo/Cat.,3x3,WHOLE Work:Downloaded/ToDo/
RX CatMake.rexx BBS:Tracings/Catalogs/Number.,5x5,WHOLE BBS:Tracings/
RX "ADDRESS 'AdPro';ADPRO_EXIT"
```

- Roger Eriksson asked why CatMake always uses Floyd-Dithering. I checked it out and found out that i did set the dithering always (fixed) to Floyd.STUPID ;-). Now the dithering, that is selected in AdPro itself is used for both rendering catalogs and (Re-)Rendering of alternative images...Thanx Roger (Hmmm...Now we have two Roger's using both CatMake on a regular basis...;-)
- Mister Eriksson has also problems with his Merlin in some way that the screen-type isnt what it should be...I removed setting the screen-type from within the script...That doesnt change anything as the screen-type that is set is identical to the one which was selected before CatMake is started...

## 1.24 CatMake.guide/History/V1.12

- V1.12 : - Roger Eriksson asked for another arrangement of the filename and size-string (until now size was right-aligned which could result in overwriting of both strings...). For this reason the Size-Flag in the configfile (named "Size") supports the settings "RIGHT" and "BOTTOM" in addition to "YES" and "NO". If set to "YES", then the size-string will be right-aligned. The same if using "RIGHT". "BOTTOM" will put the size-string under the filename and also add a seperating line between both IF "Seperate" is also "ON".
- Updated manual to current version (the doc is now considerably bigger than the actual script...WOW!)

## 1.25 CatMake.guide/History/V1.13

- V1.13 : - Oops...When loaded prefs were not Up2Date and CatMake proceeded using the built-in, then the new prefs didnt get saved at all! A missing CLOSE() prevented access to the same file once again...Thanx to Roger from Hawaii ;-)
- Some systems (at least mine) may not have the DISK-font Topaz. As this font was used in the internal defaults, one could think that CatMake is buggy as hell as no text is rendered in this case. This comes from the fact that since some Kickstart (2.04 ?!) the Topaz-Font is (also) in the ROM...I dont remember if the Topaz is nevertheless installed by Commodore by default...After all I changed the default font to Helvetica and changed the default sizes also to make the default text-output somewhat more interesting. Also changed some color-values and the tiling in the internal defaults...
  - If CatMake hasnt yet opened a CON: (output-window), then it now wont wait before quitting if an error occurred as it did before (resulting in AdPro not taking any commands for some seconds). Now CatMake only waits before quitting if it's output-window is open (and thus allowing the user to read something that could be important in one

- or another way)
- More requesters will now default to the thing fetched from the loaded or internal config. To be exact : The OKAY2-Requesters (with one "OK" and a "Cancel" button) will now be able to swap the "OK=" and "Cancel=" strings according to the prefs. The string corresponding to the Cancel-Button is the default for these requesters (as printed in bold). Unfortunately I don't really remember if you need a requester-patch like RTPatch/ReqPatch/ReqChange to profit from this feature as it may be that without such a patch you can't confirm such requesters with the Return-Key. However at least the position will be the same. That means that OKAY2-Requesters will have their "default" as their right button... Hope you like it... It makes "miss-pressings" less likely...
  - An exception are the OKAY2-Requesters from the Headerstring-Prefs. I think it's too confusing exchanging stuff like "Center?!"... No?!
  - CatMake didn't delete the temporary thumbnails if a loading-error occurred with one of them...
  - The directory, where temporary files are stored, is now configurable. By default it's (as ever) "T:". You may change this in the config-file in the "Other"-Section...
  - Catalog picture width and height as fetched from the loaded/internal defaults were not used as defaults for the corresponding requesters. Now they do...

## 1.26 CatMake.guide/History/V1.14

- V1.14 :
- If CatMake was started with argumentline and the given DirMode didn't match the loaded defaults (or internal if there weren't any), then problems occurred. Fixed that one...
  - The pathname for the temporary path was handled incorrectly if it didn't end with a ":". Fixed...
  - Added Wildcard-Support. This will allow you to ONLY process files that match the Wildcard. The Wildcard-Feature can be disabled by using either a "\*" as Wildcard or the keyword "OFF". To specify a Wildcard, you HAVE to use ONE "\*" in the string which replaces "anything". So there are three possibilities. The "\*" can be the first character of the Wildcard so that each filename has to END with the string after the "\*" i.o. to be catalogized. If the "\*" is the last character of the Wildcard, then each filename has to BEGIN with the string before the "\*". If the "\*" is somewhere in the middle of the Wildcard, then each filename has to BEGIN with the string left of the "\*" AND has to END with the string right of the "\*".
- Note : If you want to invert the Wildcard (thus specifying a Wildcard for the files you DONT want to be catalogized), then precede the Wildcard with a "~" (first character of Wildcard is checked for being a "~" or not...)
- A Wildcard HAS to be given as argument to CatMake if it's started with an argumentline. The new syntax for CatMake is now :
- ```
CatMake [<CatBase>,<TileMode>,<Wildcard>,<DirMode> <FileData>]
```
- ~~~~~
- The Wildcard will be prompted for with a requester and can also be changed in the prefsfile in the "Other"-Section
- Requested by Roger Eriksson
- The recognition of existing catalogs was broken... It happened that existing catalogs, although having the same basename as during a new
-

run of CatMake, got catalogized once again...Fixed...A side-effect is a speed-increase in that routine which will result in shorter time to display the tiling-requester...

## 1.27 CatMake.guide/History/V1.15

V1.15 : - Wildcards are NO MORE case-sensitive  
- Added support for upto two "anything" replacers for the Wildcards ("\*")  
- If the string you enter in the Wildcard-Requester doesnt contain any "\*", then it will be changed to simply "\*"...  
- CatMake now tells you exactly how many images have to be processed until everything's done. This info is shown while processing each image...And as always it's smart enough to tell you that while the last image is beeing processed, that then the whole stuff is finished.  
- Code-Cleanup regarding dummy-variables (stringent usage now)  
- If CatMake is started from a Shell/CON: , then you see how many files are removed due to Wildcard-Checking (if any)...Purpose : Debugging

## 1.28 CatMake.guide/History/V1.16

V1.16 : - Argh! Swapped two lines in a wrong order and so you could get an Error 47 in line 659...Shame on me ;-)  
- Removing that bug i changed a DO...UNTIL loop to a DO...WHILE loop... This just saves one loop-running (nothing more or less than that)  
- If only one tile to process, then a spelling error occurred (1 tileS)...

## 1.29 CatMake.guide/History/V1.17

V1.17 : - People running AdPro on it's own screen may now have luck and see the output-CON: of CatMake on that one instead of the default public screen (usually Workbench)...not tested...  
- If the wildcard contained exactly one "\*" (but more than that "\*"), then CatMake failed with an error 18 in line 603...Fixed that... Thanx to Roger Eriksson for reporting it.  
- The configfile has a change which doesnt affect anything (yet). As Roger from Sweden has probs with 1.16, i promptly release this one without the new feature beeing added (yet) (its a LhA/PowerPacker (auto-)decruncher...)

## 1.30 CatMake.guide/History/V1.18

V1.18 : - Wildcarding still didnt work...To be exact : It didnt when you had only one \* in your wildcard...By mistake CatMake then assumed that "somewhere" there was another \* (which wasnt there and therefore produced an error...). Lets hope that this is fixed now...  
Thanx to Roger Eriksson for reporting it.

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- Added a troubleshooting section to this doc...Currently only one entry...Perhaps the registered users have some tips or stuff like that...
- The alphabetical sorting is now case-independent. Before, upper case was above lower case
- CatMake is now able to automatically recognize and decrunch -lhx- and powerpacked files (-lhx- means any file archived with lh-compression (e.g. LhA, LZH write such files). Therefore two options have been added already in the V1.17 config namely "ExamineFiles" and "ExamineNames". None, either or both can be set "ON" or "OFF". When ExamineNames is ON, then CatMake will have a look on the filenames after wilddarding them. If a filename ends with ".LHA", ".LZH" or ".PP" (not case sensitive), then it will be handled correctly. With LhA and LZH files this means that "LHA" will be started and the first file in that archive will be extracted and used instead of that archive. With PP-Files this means that the decruncher "PPack" will be started to decrunch the powerpacked file. PPack is written by B.Folgmann. After processing all catalogs the decrunched LhA/LZH-Files will be deleted and the decrunched PP-Files will be crunched again. If ExamineFiles is ON, then (if ExamineNames hasnt already found a file if it is turned on also) it will have a close look on each file. It will open each file and read the first 5 chars from it. Then CatMake looks for certain strings to determine the filetype and then perform decrunching if filetype was recognized... This function was requested by Mr. Hamerla i guess...Its so long ago. I cant really remember who it was...Now i implemented it on a rainy day ;-)
- Added option "ScreenShuffle" to prefsfile as CatMake may now open it's window on AdPro's screen and still swap like hell thru the screens (well, not THAT much...just annoying). To be flexible again, the user may decide that behaviour now. If set to "YES", then screens will be shuffled as before, if set to "NO", not only one Screen2Front will be executed...Have phun with it Roger Eriksson ;-)
- Added my account-address to the guide (useful for german users...)

### 1.31 CatMake.guide/History/V1.19

V1.19 : - brand@let.dnet.basf-ag.de reported that catalogs greater than 1000x1000 wouldnt work for him (producing a "loading-error while saving was successfull"). Checking that out, i added another error-trapping popping up when there is an error creating the backdrop (which is a memoryproblem then).

### 1.32 CatMake.guide/History/V1.20

V1.20 : - Added another goodie : When there are more than 50 files to be processed in one session, then the C:Sort command will be abused for sorting the files alphabetically as this should be quite a bit faster...Worked out after an idea of Jim Geuther/Schweiz. Make sure that you havent deleted that command yet!

- Wilddarding nuked...Beeing fed up with the routine, i simply use rexxarplib now...This is faster and even more flexible. Make sure

you have that lib installed if you use wildcards...

### 1.33 CatMake.guide/History/V1.21

V1.21 : - Sorting and wildcarding is now done using only ONE external library. It's called "rexxtricks.library" and is kinda new. I include the lib in it's original form with future releases. The lib supports some very nice things which may be used more widely in future versions... So far i use only 4 functions.

- Note that it is possible that the wildcarding only works with "#?" instead of "\*"... It's a limitation of AmigaOS.
- Also note that using that library greatly increases pre-processing and also reduces the scriptsize...

### 1.34 CatMake.guide/History/V1.22

V1.22 : - Added another argument option when CatMake is called with an argumentline. The new template is now :

```
CatMake [<CatBase>,<TileMode>,<Wildcard>,<Header>,<DirMode> <FileData>]
~~~~~
```

So you may set a headerstring for the processing...

If you dont want to specify a header (so that the one in the prefs/defaults gets used, then leave it out BUT dont forget the ", " !!! :

No specific header :

```
CatMake RAM:Catalog,3x3,#?,,,WHOLE dat:pics/
~~~~~
```

With specific header :

```
CatMake RAM:Catalog,3x3,#?,My picture collie,WHOLE dat:pics/
```

- General code cleanup at some points...
- Wildcarding with rexxtricks.library didnt work correctly... The specified wildcard was actually inverted!
- New option for the prefsfile : TextRender=<YES | NO>  
If set to YES, CatMake behaves like in the past.  
if set to NO, CatMake wont render ANY textstring to the TILES (not the header is meant!). This means that the thumbnails will have maximum space in their tiles. It's like Seperate=NO and no mixing and stuff...  
Therefore prefsfileversion increased...
- Changed the contact address in this guide...

### 1.35 CatMake.guide/History/V1.23

V1.23 : - Added another argument option when CatMake is called with an argumentline. The new template is now :

```
CatMake [<CatBase>,<TileMode>,<Wildcard>,<Header>,<PrefsFile>,<DirMode> ←
        <FileData>]
```

~~~~~

So you may now specify a specific prefsfile to use...Very handy for full automatism...

- The last entry in the filelist was not sorted in when using Alpha-sorting (it remained as the last file=tile)
- If AdPro isnt running on startup,then CatMake will try to run it. It starts "Adpro:Adpro".This is done with a trick as AdPro needs a Stack of at least 4096 and i dunno how to set it any other then by creating a batchfile in T: and then executing it...It works fine though.That tmp-file is deleted immediately...and AdPro is exited if it was runned by CatMake.
- Speed-Improvement!The more tiles a cat has,the faster CatMake is now compared to prior versions.The simple trick : The grid in each catalog is not anymore created of rectangles around each tile but instead is created of maximum wide horizontal and maximum high vertical ones.So we now only need XTiles + YTiles rectangles to draw instead of XTiles x YTiles !!!(read : 20 instead of 100 !!!)
- Added wildcard section to this guide...

## 1.36 CatMake.guide/History/V1.24

V1.24 : - Minor changes to prefsfileparsing

- Already present cats werent recognized (since some versions...)
- Now also creates bak-files of bak-files etc. (if "rename" selected when a present cat is recognized)
- A bit faster in preprocessing
- If used aspectscaling and an error-thumbnail was generated with sizestring=bottom,then the "Corrupt"-String was displaced and scaled...
- STRRRRIIIKE! ;-) Catalogcomposing is now a lot faster...Junked a lot of unnecessary rectangles() - chek-id-oud!
- Added ExtensionTerminator ;-) If set to YES,then CatMake will strip everything after and including the last "." of each filename : "KewlPic.GIF" -> "KewlPic"  
                   "Foo.Bar.Pic.JPEG" -> "Foo.Bar.Pic"  
                   "Not.Extension" -> "Not"

Therefore format of Configfile changed (now V2.0) - Find the "StripExtension =" at the beginning of the prefsfile!

## 1.37 CatMake.guide/Index

(Not that big eh?! - I dunno what to add here...)

Argumentline

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->

->

Hooks

Prefsfile

->

->

->

Wildcards

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