

AssignZ

COLLABORATORS

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Chapter 1

AssignZ

1.1 Welcome to the AssignZ documentation

AssignZ Version 2.7

* FreeWare Evaluation Version *
* ShareWare Registered Version *

AssignZ is ShareWare and is available to the public in a crippled FreeWare version. It has been crippled (a bit) to give the users a reason to become registered...

What is not available in the FreeWare version? The opportunity to save configuration files from within AssignZ - you will have to edit the file using your text editor...

Oh yes, and the "About" requester pops up each time you open the configuration window.

That's all, folks. Not too terrible, but is it enough to get you to become registered? I really hope so!

Introduction	What is AssignZ?
Legal stuff	Copyright and distribution
Usage	How to use AssignZ
Configuration	Description of the configuration file
Installation	How to install AssignZ
Registration	How to become a registered user
Authors	Who created AssignZ?
Credits	Our thanks go to...

1.2 Introduction

Introduction:

AssignZ is intended to ease the use of assignments and mountable devices (e.g. RAD:), replacing the standard 'Please insert volume "BAR" in any drive'-requester with one which lets you make the assigns, even multiassigns and mount devices. So far this is nothing new. AssignZ lets you save the settings, so that it will assign/mount the volumes in the future without having the user doing the whole procedure again. AssignZ also lets you edit the settings using a GUI. Contrary to other tools, AssignZ will create assigns "on demand", so no unneeded assigns are around.

AssignZ was inspired by Steve Tibbet's AssignX.

1.3 Legal stuff

Copyright and distribution:

AssignZ is copyrighted by Tobias Abt and Alexander Kneer. The registered version of AssignZ may be distributed by the authors only.

On the other hand, the FreeWare version may be distributed on any possible way if the archive structure is left untouched and no files are modified. The authors explicitly allow adding of BBS advertisements in the root directory of the archive.

The distribution archive must contain:

- AssignZ/AssignZ
- AssignZ/catalogs/deutsch/AssignZ.catalog
- AssignZ/Docs.info
- AssignZ/Docs/deutsch.info
- AssignZ/Docs/deutsch/AssignZ.guide
- AssignZ/Docs/deutsch/AssignZ.guide.info
- AssignZ/Docs/english.info
- AssignZ/Docs/english/AssignZ.guide
- AssignZ/Docs/english/AssignZ.guide.info
- AssignZ/icons/AssignZ16.info
- AssignZ/icons/AssignZ4.info
- AssignZ/Install-AssignZ
- AssignZ/Install_Deutsch.info
- AssignZ/Install_English.info
- AssignZ.info

Disclaimer:

No Warranty of any kind is given that the program described in this document is 100% reliable. You are using this material at your own risk. The authors cannot be made responsible for any damage which is caused by using AssignZ.

1.4 How to use AssignZ

Usage:

Using AssignZ can be divided into two major steps: creating assignments (and mounting devices) and configuring AssignZ. Both actions are rather simple, so everyone should be capable of controlling AssignZ.

Creating assigns and mounting devices:

Whenever any program tries to access a volume name which is currently not available, AssignZ pops up a requester to let you, the user, choose any directory (or even file, which may be useful sometimes) to assign to the requested volume name (e.g. a program wants to access "Aminet:" you could assign this name to "Work:Aminet"). Or you may mount the requested device (e.g. "RAD:").

If the AssignZ requester pops up, you can choose what to do: either insert the requested disk now or choose a directory where you want to link the assign to (for quick selection of current directory of the program there is a separate button "Assign to CD") or if the volume has to be mounted choose "Mount" or "Mount from..." (if you want to mount the device from a mountlist other than "DEVS:MountList"). If you do not want to insert the requested disk you may choose "Cancel" or "Deny" (if you do not want to be asked for that volume again until the next system reboot).

AssignZ performs the replacement of the standard "Please insert volume ... in any drive" requester by patching EasyRequestArgs(). Therefore this can only work for programs which do not have system requesters disabled.

Configuring AssignZ:

You can edit the assigns and mounts any time you want using the GUI. This can be opened by pressing the hotkey (defaults to "lcommand z", can be set with the "CX_POPKEY" tooltype) or by starting AssignZ a second time or by using the "Show Interface" button of the "Exchange" tool.

You can add new assigns or mounts, modify existing ones or delete any of them. If you create more than one assign for the a name, this will become a so called "multi assign".

If you want to mount a device which is not defined in your DEVS:MountList file (or for Workbench 2.1+ users the SYS:Storage/DOSDrivers directory) you can manually select a different MountList file. Mounting devices requires "C:Mount" which should be available on your system diskette or in the "C" dirctory of your boot partition.

If you have chosen "Deny" for a previously requested volume and you want to reverse this selection you should activate the menu "Clean Denylist". Then, all previously denied volume names will be discarded and they will pop up, when requested, again.

If you have finished your changes you can save the configuration to disk now - if you have the registered version, otherwise you will have to edit the config file manually using your favorite text editor.

1.5 Description of the configuration file

The configuration file:

A human readable text file (default: AssignZ.config) is used for storing the configuration data.

Entries in that file:

```
for Assigns: "NAME/K/A,PATH/K/A",
for Mounts: "NAME/K/A,FROM/K".
```

Each entry must have its own, single line, because the file is parsed using ReadArgs()!

The ReadArgs()-Templates

```
-----
for Assigns: "NAME/K/A,PATH/K/A",
for Mounts: "NAME/K/A,FROM/K".
```

A config file could look like that:

```
-----
# $VER: AssignZ.config V1.0 written by AssignZ V2.7
# AssignZ configuration file
#
Assign:NAME="Aminet" PATH="Work:Aminet/"
Assign:NAME="FD" PATH="Includes:FD/"
Mount:NAME="PC0"
Mount:NAME="RAD"
-----
```

1.6 Installation

Installation:

AssignZ is a commodity which should be placed in the SYS:WBStartup drawer of your Workbench. The appropriate ToolTypes are created by the Installer script, so you should better use it!

ToolTypes:

In the tooltypes (or as CLI parameters) you can use the standard commodities tooltypes (CX_#?), the WBStartup tooltypes (STARTPRI, DONOTWAIT) and 'CONFIGNAME' which tells AssignZ what file to use as its standard config file (defaults to: AssignZ.config).

1.7 How to become a registered user

There are several options for users to become registered:

- a) Send us some money.
Requested amount to become registered: DM 15 or US \$10. This includes a disk with the newest version and shipping. If you can be reached via

EMail, you will get new versions for free! Otherwise updates/upgrades are DM 5 or US \$4. Please no other foreign currencies!
If you want your registered version of PopShell mailed via email, you may only want the executable because of less network traffic.

In Germany, transfer the money to: Tobias Abt, Sparkasse Ulm, BLZ 630 500 00, Kto. 256 861 and send me (Tobias Abt) a letter with your address and a hint that the money is on the way so I can identify the transfer. Within Europe, please send Eurochecks, from outside Europe the simplest way would be to send the money in a letter. Wrap the money into a sheet of paper so that it will not be visible from outside the letter. And don't forget to add your name and address!

- b) Localize PopShell (and documentation) for a currently not supported language. Please contact us first if you want to do so, as others may already do this!
- c) You may offer registered versions of some of your programs to us. The intention behind this offer is to honor the software authors who have done something for the Amiga, too. Please understand that we want to choose if we would like to do so, so please ask us first if we accept, because there are tons of other programs around which we don't need or even like...! FreeWare authors are certainly welcome, too!
- d) Are you someone who contributed to the Amiga in some other way? If you think so and we agree to this, then you might also become a registered user for free.

By the way, standard mail sucks! So if you can, please use EMail! It's easier, faster and cheaper. Surely for us but probably also for you...

1.8 Authors

AssignZ was written by:

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email: no email address available due to incompetence of the system administrators at the CS faculty of the University of Ulm.

Also available from the authors:

- PopShell, a versatile shell and public screen launcher

- PatchPens, a comfortable tool to control some or even all of the Workbench colors under Workbench 3.x

1.9 Credits

Our thanks go to:

Our beta-testers (in alphabetical order):

Angela, Felix, Günther, Ingmar, Jens, Lothar, Mats, Michael, Oly, Ralph, Thomas and to all those I forgot,

Commodore Amiga for the Amiga (sad they are gone...),
SAS for their wonderful C-Compiler (I'm sorry they left the Amiga...),
Michael D. Bayne for his GarshneBlanker and for looking through the english documentation of AssignZ,
Oliver Bausch and Frank Sautter for the oMniBus VGA system

and to all the others who help(ed) to make the Amiga so unique.
