

**GetSDat38.126**

<b>COLLABORATORS</b>
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	<i>TITLE :</i> GetSDat38.126		
<i>ACTION</i>	<i>NAME</i>	<i>DATE</i>	<i>SIGNATURE</i>
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# Chapter 1

## GetSDat38.126

### 1.1 GetSDat V38.126 guide

This is the documentation, for GetSDat V38.126  
© Copyright Nicolai Jensen 1994,1995.

IF YOU HAVE BEEN USING AN EARLIER VERSION (Lower than 38.100), [CLICK HERE](#)

Contents	Listing/Description of files in this package
Disclaimer and Copyright	Legal mumbo jumbo
Author/support info	Info about the author & support
Development info	Info about the tools used to create GetSDat
Introduction	What/Why
Installation	Requirements & How to install
Instructions	How to use GetSDat
Errors	Possible solutions to various errors
Limitations/Bugs	Notes on Limitations and known bugs
History/Changes	The history of this program
To do	Possibilities for the future

Call Formula II Amiga BBS +45 43432463  
This space could be yours !!!

### 1.2 Well what do we have here then... ?

The contents of this archive/directory should be the following

GSD.info	: drawer icon
GSD/GetSDat	: The executable file, current version is 38.126
GSD/GetSDat_38.126	: Startup script, only needed when GetSDat is started from the WorkBench.
GSD/GetSDat_38.126.info	: Icon for the startup script.
GSD/GetSDat.Guide	: This document file, current version is 38.126
GSD/GetSDat.Guide.info	: Icon file for GetSDat.Guide
GSD/Localetrans/GetSDat.ct	: Catalog translation file

GSD/Localetrans/GetSDat.cd : Catalog description file  
GSD/Locale/Catalogs/Dansk/GetSDat.catalog : Danish catalog file,  
current version is 38.123

## 1.3 GetSDat V38.126 introduction

GetSDat is a Sbase4 professional data-retrieve program.  
If you don't own Sbase4 professional, chances are that you will have very little use of GetSDat.

GetSDat is a program, that uses exported ascii files from Sbase4 Professional, to make access to data faster. Often, when one uses Sbase4, it takes a while, to start the program, open a file, open an index, and search for a record. GetSDat, is a simple solution to this tedious affair. It starts with a default file opened, thus making it a pretty fast way to find data. There are also options to switch databases when needed. Data is retrieved from exported Sbase4 files which is copied to T:, in a special GetSDat format.

I have not been able to figure out the file format in Sbase4's own files. GetSDat is a data-retrieve program, not a database with editing facilities. It is meant only as a fast(er) way to find something, without having to load up the full Sbase4.

## 1.4 install

To use GetSDat you need at least AmigaDOS(tm) 3.0 and reqtools.library V38  
reqtools is © copyright 1991-1993 by Nico François.  
You will need some space in T:, exactly how much is determined by the size of your database.

First a note on installing locale files.  
Copy the GetSDat.locale file from the directory with your language to 'Locale:Catalogs/YourOwnLanguage/' where 'YourOwnLanguage' denotes the name of your language (!) Eg. if you speak Swahili, and a Swahili GetSDat.locale file does exist, copy it to 'Locale:Catalogs/Swahili/'

IF YOU ARE HAVE BEEN USING AN EARLIER VERSION (Lower than 38.100), [CLICK HERE](#)

To use GetSDat you need SBase4 Professional, installed to the assign/disk 'SBASE4:'. Before you can use GetSDat you need to export any databases you will need. To do this, open a file in Sbase4 (consult your manual if you are unsure what this means), then select 'Export' from the 'Process' menu, now just click 'OK' in the next 2 requesters, for default options. This done, now choose a filename which is the name of the original file + '.asc' (eg. if Fonelist was opened, call the exported file 'Fonelist.asc'. Presently all the files has to reside in 'SBASE4:', this may change in future versions of GetSDat. Follow this procedure for all the files you will be using GetSDat with.

Now start GetSDat. A filerequester will appear, with '#?.asc' pattern set, in the 'SBASE4:' disk/assign. Select a file. GetSDat will now read the Sbase4

---

#?.SBD file, with the filename you selected (eg. You selected 'BabTarm.asc' GetSDat will read 'BabTarm.sbd'), after reading the '#?.sbd' file GetSDat will create a default config file in 's:' called 'Default.GetSDatCfg'. This file is read every time GetSDat is started. You can later change the default configuration, if you want to.

This file is read from now on, every time GetSDat is started.

Be aware, that you cannot use more than the first nine fields in a database (see : limitations.)

When you believe you have understood the installation procedure, you should proceed to Instructions.

## 1.5 instructions

Having completed the Install/Setup you are now ready to use GetSDat.

In the main window (which is the only window) are seven Gadgets, with the following labels

Search string		
Search		
<		
<		Click to get info about specific gadget(s)
>		
>		
Quit		
Index		

One Menu containing sub menus is attached to the window

In the upper left part of the window, the field names will be displayed.

To the right, the data will be displayed. But only the first 32 characters, of any string will be shown.

All data is handled as strings !

## 1.6 searchstringgad

First Gadget : Labeled 'Search string'. Click here and enter the string you want to search for. The string are NOT case sensitive.

This gadget can also be selected by using it's Shortcut.

## 1.7 searchgad

Second gadget : Labeled 'Search', click in it to conduct a search for the next record, containing the string entered in the 'Search string' gadget.

The search are NOT case sensitive.

This gadget can also be selected by using it's Shortcut.

## 1.8 leftnavgad

Fourth gadget : Labeled '<' Left navigation gadget, moves to the previous record. or use the Shortcut.

## 1.9 rightnavgad

Fifth gadget : Labelled '>' Right navigation gadget, moves to the next record, or use the Shortcut.

## 1.10 homegad

Third gadget : Labelled '|<', Home Navigation gadget. Click here to move to the start of the file, or use the Shortcut.

## 1.11 eofgad

Sixth gadget : Labelled '>|', EOF Navigation gadget. Click here to move to the end of the file, or use the Shortcut.

## 1.12 quitgad

Seventh Gadget : Labeled 'Quit', click in it to quit the program. Or use the Shortcut.

## 1.13 indexgad

Eight Gadget : Labeled 'Index', a checkbox gadget. When checked, search will only be conducted in the fields, which you in Sbase4pro has made 'Indexed'. If not checked, all fields will be searched for the supplied data.

Curently the indexed search is slower than the non-indexed search, I will have a closer look at this problem some time. I think it should be a lot faster.

This gadget can be default checked or unchecked, depending on what you have

---

selected for the individual 'GetSdatConfig' files.

This gadget can also be selected by using it's Shortcut.

## 1.14 menus

In the menubar you will find one menu, the 'Project' menu, containing three menu items. Config », About and Support.

## 1.15 configmenu

First Project item : 'Config »' contains two sub-items, 'Load config' and 'Make New Config'.

'Config »' subitem 'Load config' :

-----  
Shortcut : L

Load a configuration file. Enables you to switch databases without having to reconfigure. Selecting this menu, pops up a file requester, with the recognition pattern for GetSDat's configuration files, select one, to use that database.

'Config »' subitem 'Make New Config' :

-----  
Shortcut : M

To create another configuration file. This can be either an optional configuration, or a new default configuration. When selected, it pops up a filerequester, containing the recognition pattern '#?.asc', in the assign/disk 'SBASE4:'. Select one of the files.

Now a requester containing the text 'Do you want to make 'filename' default or optional config ?'. Selecting 'Default' will create a new default configuration file, with the data, of the database to be loaded each time GetSDat is started. Selecting 'Optional' will save an optional configuration file, for the database in 's:'.

After this, another requester will appear, asking whether you want to use 'Indexed search as default' for this configuration file. Selecting 'Yes' will set the configuration to Indexed Search, and 'No' will set it to search all data.

The Indexed/NonIndexed searchmode can be toggled by using the 'Index' checkbox gadget ←  
in the main window.

## 1.16 aboutmenu



Second Project item 'About' : Select this to get a short info about the program.  
Shortcut : A

## 1.17 supportmenu

Select this item to get info on, how to contact the author, for support etc.  
Shortcut : U

## 1.18 sbase4

SBase4 PROFESSIONAL is a database program  
© Copyright 1992 Oxxi inc. All rights reserved.

## 1.19 shortcut

Shortcut.

For Gadgets : Just press the letter with the underscore, for the desired option.

For Menus : As usual 'Right Amiga key' and 'letter', simultaneously.

For Navigation buttons : Press 'Left' or 'Right' arrow keys.

For Home & Eof gadgets, press Right\_Shift and Left or Right arrow key.

Neither are case sensitive.

## 1.20 limitations

Limitations and bugs.

You cannot use more than the first nine fields of a database, this limit may change in future versions.

The program cannot detach itself from the cli. I will try to figure out why. For the moment, it can safely be installed in programs like 'Toolsdaemon', by Nico François if you specify the entry, as a '(CLI)' entry, or you can run it <NIL:>NIL:.

All database files including exported '#?.asc' files MUST reside in the 'Sbase4:' assign.

All '#?.GetSDatConfig' files must be in 's:'

Some national characters doesn't seem to be supported by SBase4. If this ever changes I will implement support for them in GetSDat.

If you find any bugs, then contact the author

---

## 1.21 legal

### Disclaimer

Use this program at your own risk, the author of this program cannot be held responsible for any loss of data, money, sanity, or anything else. The author doesn't guarantee that this program will work for ANY specific purpose, or work at all. (Although it is most likely that it will function).

### Copyright

All files in the archive are © Copyright Nicolai Jensen 1995.

The package may be freely distributed, as long as the following conditions are met

- \* The contents of the package MUST NOT be manipulated. NO files may be added. The only exeption from this is, it IS allowed to place BBS readme files and the like in the root of the archive/package.
- \* All files MUST remain in the package.
- \* You must not charge any money for this program, exept for reasonable media costs (The price of a disk, or whatever media the program is held on).
- \* This program may not be distributed by a COMMERCIAL bulletin board service !!!

Follow these rules, or I will find something nasty, and send it to you by special delivery via my Russian connection !!!

### Other rights

regtools.library (NOT distibuted with this package), are © copyright 1991-1993 by Nico François.

## 1.22 configfiles

GetSdat configuration files are placed in 's:' with the suffix '.GetSDatCfg'.

The information in bold types below, is a bit technical, and is not neccesary to know:

Those files holds information about the filenames of the databases. The files also holds information about the fields of the database. Field names which are also  
'Indexes' are preceded by a single character with the ascii value '1'. Also included  
is a simple boolean setting (TRUE or FALSE) for the Index Gadget.

When you first start the program, a requester will appear, prompting to you to select a default configuration.

If you select 'Make New Config' from the 'Config' submenu you will be able to make both other optional configurations, and a new default configuration.

---

But keep in mind, that before you can make any configuration files, you must export the needed data from Sbase4pro (see : Installation).

## 1.23 kastor lieberung

If you find any bugs, have any suggestions about this program, or if you have made a locale translation to your language, please contact :

Nicolai Jensen - Fidonet 2:236/116.666 or AmyNet 39:141/127.666

or leave a note to Nicolai Jensen, at the totally outrageous GetSDat support site.

```
+-----+
|               FORMULA II AMIGA BBS               |
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|           USR 28.8k VFC V34 Dual standard  24 Hour  |
|           Fidonet 2:236/116.0   AmiNet 39:141/127.0  |
|           Sysop : Flemming Lindeblad              |
+-----+
```

You will always find the latest version of GetSDat available for file request. Use the Magic (\*twinkle\*twinkle\*) name GetSDat

In the archive I have included the .cd and .ct files you need to translate GetSDat to your own language, using FlexCat or similar programs.

## 1.24 formulaii

.. And remember where you found this first :

```
#####  ###  #####  ###  ###  ##  ##  ##  #####  #####
###    ##  ##  ###  ##  #####  #####  ###  ###  ###  ###  ###  ###
###    ###  ###  ###  ##  #####  #####  ###  ###  ###  ###  ###  ###
#####  ###  ###  #####  ###  ###  ###  ###  ###  ###  ###  #####  ##  ##
###    ###  ###  #####  ###  #  ###  ###  ###  ###  ###  ###  ###  ###
###    ##  ##  ###  ##  ###  ###  ###  ###  ###  #####  ###  ###  #####
##      ###  ##  ##  ##  ##  ##  #####  #####  ##  ##  #####
```

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- \* New Points Accepted
- \* Lots and Lots of files
- \* Lots of doors
- \* Lots of mail
- \* Lots of syso... errrm I mean \* Nice Sysop

## 1.25 development

The following software was used to develop GetSDat V38.126

HighSpeed pascal release 2  
Editor 1.20 by Keith Wilson  
© Copyright 1992 HiSoft D-House and Christen Fihl

The Designer  
Release V1.50  
© Copyright Ian OConnor 1994

reqtools.library  
The requester toolkit  
release 2.1d  
© 1991-1993 Nico François  
HSPascal interface v1.2 © 1992 by Gunter Indenboek

FlexCat V1.01  
© 1993 Jochen Wiedmann

The following hardware was used to develop GetSDat V38.126

A 30Mhz Amiga 4000/030 equipped with  
6 MB RAM and 135 MB HD.

## 1.26 errors

-----  
Text output to console:  
"Cannot find "Sbase4:"  
GetSdat 38.126: device (or volume) not mounted" :

Problem : You need to assign 'Sbase4:'  
Solution : Install Sbase4pro  
-----

-----  
Requester appearing with error :

Text "Cannot open window" :  
Problem : You are low on memory.  
Solution : Free some chipmem !  
-----

-----  
Text "Cannot open required library" :  
Problem : You need one/more libraries distributed with WB 3.0 or higher.  
Solution : Work with a properly installed workbench !!!  
-----

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## 1.27 commercials

Anyone willing to sponsor this extremely nice project and Mitzumaza Industries, should contact the author ASAP. Sponsoring this project will provide you with :

1. A clean conscience, and the feeling that you have done something nice.
2. Your name mentioned several times, both in the exefiles and documentation of the Mitzumaza Industries product line.  
This includes, at the time being :
  - \* Imponizer - THE pseudo utility
  - \* PS - PhileSplit/Merge utility
  - \* Nam2Su - Pointlist > Fidouser list converter for use with Spot.
  - \* HowMany - Counts how many times you have booted your Amiga
  - \* GetSDat - Search utility for use with Sbase4 professional
3. A possibility to get rid of some money/hardware/beer/software/cars/  
good looking female individuals between 15-35/Gibson Les Paul guitars/etc.

## 1.28 history

Dec-30-1993 First public release \*GetSDat V38.33β\*

-----

Just a test release. Intended for friends. And to boost my U/D rating on various BBS'es :-)

Jan-14-1994 Second Public release \*GetSDat V38.53\*

-----

Fixed various bugs (a lot), and probably made some new ones.

Updated the interface.

This includes:

Removal of the 'Next' button.

Adding 'Navigation' buttons.

Adding the 'Home' button.

Making a fancy 'progress indicator'.

Making the bar at the bottom of the window, that shows filename and length.

Remaking of the file handling.

Now GetSDat makes, and uses a file in T:, insted af working directly on the exported Sbase4 file. See To do.

Jan-27-1994 Third Public release \*GetSDat V38.54\*

-----

Fixed a minor bug in the progress indicator. That caused, a one pixel wide bar to be  
be  
displayed, when it should be empty, after pressing home. (What did I just say ?)

Made cosmetic changes around a couple of gadgets.

Changed the version string (heh heh).

Mar-09-1994 Fourth public release \*GetSDat V38.56\*

---

---

Recompiled the program, after using designer v1.2

Mar-16-1994 Fifth public release \*GetSDat V38.57\*

---

Holeeee Moses... Enforcer hit detected  
10 Minutes Later - Enforcer hit removed

May-09-1994 Sixth public release \*GetSDat v38.68\*

---

Localized the program.

Changed the font, now the program uses Topaz 80 (see to do).

Added check for 'DEL'eted fields in #?.SBD files. Now DEL fields won't be ←  
displayed.

June-22-1994 Seventh public release \*GetSDat v38.74\*

---

- \* Now all text is centered nicely in the requesters
- \* Reworked the 'Home' button. Now use 'Right Shift+Left Arrow' to get to beginning of file.
- \* Added 'Eof' button. Use 'Right Shift+Right Arrow' to get to End of file.
- \* Fixed a requester bug, that caused 2 requesters to be displayed when no file was selected, after fileselection was initialized (what did he just say?)
- \* Made the version string a bit more 'legal' :-)

August-25-1994 Eight public release \*GetSDat v38.99\*

---

- \* Some small bugs fixed.
- \* Small parts of code changed to optimize efficiency.
- \* Optimized general display speed  
(removed a time consuming unnecessary piece of code).
- \* Slightly optimized progress indicator routines.
- \* Changed length of displayed strings to 50 characters.
- \* Made gadgets 'disabled' when they are not ready for input.
- \* Added Zoom gadget to top border.
- \* Added Indexed search option + Gadget.

September-5-1994 Ninth public release \*GetSDat 38.100\*

---

- \* Bug fix : Damn... the indexed search routine did not work properly - Fixed !
- \* Bug Fix : First time the program was started, the underscores in gadgets did not work properly - Fixed !
- \* Increased search speed a bit.
- \* The window will now pop to front when 'zoomed'.

January-27-1995 Tenth public release \*GetSDat 38.126\*

---

- \* Changed so much code that GetSDat is now only compatible with AmigaOS 3.0 and upwards !
- \* Bug Fix : Changed recognition pattern in filerequesters from '\*' to '#?' the asterisk did not allways work. I wonder why I used it in the first place.
- \* Bug Fix : The information about the name and size of the open file, was not rewritten after the window was unzoomed.
- \* Sbase4 does not export some national characters properly. I have tried to make a danish workaround for this. If you are using a danish locale some of the exported charaters will be converted as follows

Characer with ascii value	Should be	Converted to
146	Æ	Æ
145	æ	Æ
143	Å	Å
134	å	Å
237	Ø	Ø

The capital letter 'Ø' is output from Sbase4 as an '\_' underscore, and will not be converted !

All three letters is in all cases converted to the capital version, because GetSDat always converts everything to uppercase !

This means from now on, danish people can search on strings like 'rødgrød', 'fløde' and 'En lækker mad mæ pølse' if they like.

- \* New Feature : Indexed fields will now be written in a different color than non-indexed fields.
  - \* New Feature : The program is now font sensitive.
  - \* New Feature : Icon start. I have made a tiny startup script and added an icon. Click the icon to start GetSDat.
  - \* Bug fix : National characters is now correctly supported as 'gadget hotkeys'. Thanks to the locale.library.
  - \* Changed length of displayed strings to 32 characters.
  - \* Changed the version string.
- 

## 1.29 to do

Here's a list of things I would like to add/make in future versions of GetSDat. (well maybe)

1. I would like GetSDat to work directly on the Sbase4 Files.  
Suppose I have to figure out, something about the Sbase4 file format.
2. Correction of all the spelling errors in this doc phile.
3. Making a FASTER indexed search rutine, this probably involves making linked lists and other unspeakable horrors !
4. Fixing the link bugs in this document !
5. Implement online help

## 1.30 update

If you are using a version of GetSDat prior to 38.100, it is necessary to remake your configuration files, this is easily done. Clicking in this gadget will delete all .GetSDatCfg files from your 's:' dir. After that, follow the normal procedure to install GetSdat configuration files again