

Scrambler

COLLABORATORS

	<i>TITLE :</i> Scrambler		
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WRITTEN BY		December 17, 2022	

REVISION HISTORY

NUMBER	DATE	DESCRIPTION	NAME

Contents

1 Scrambler	1
1.1 Scrambler v1.0	1
1.2 Features	1
1.3 Required System	2
1.4 Installation	2
1.5 Limitation	2
1.6 Copyright	2
1.7 History	3
1.8 Contact the Author	3
1.9 Encoding and Decoding	4
1.10 Multiple Files	4
1.11 Cells per Line	5
1.12 Use XX Set	5
1.13 Table Output	5
1.14 Overwrite	6
1.15 Max Output Size	6
1.16 Registration	6
1.17 Index	7

Chapter 1

Scrambler

1.1 Scrambler v1.0

Scrambler Version 1.0
by Alan Doyle
Released on 5th March 1996.

Features

Required System

Installation

Limitations

Copyright and Distribution

Program History

Contacting the Author

Registration

INDEX

1.2 Features

Features

- o Supports UUEncoding/UUDecoding and XXEncoding/XXDecoding.
 - o Very fast
 - Encoding
 - and
 - Decoding
-

- .
- o Multiple Files
.(REGISTERED VERSION ONLY)

1.3 Required System

Required System

Scrambler requires version 2.04 of the Amiga operating system or higher.
Also the Asl.library v37+

Nothing else.. =)

1.4 Installation

Installation

Simply copy it onto your hard drive somewhere in your path eg C: or
SYS:Utilities.

Couldn't be simpler.

1.5 Limitation

Limitations

Only supports UUEncoding/UUDecoding & XXEncoding/XXDecoding at the moment.
The next release will hopefully support MIME.

If there is any feature you'd like added let me know.

See my

address

.

1.6 Copyright

Copyright and Distribution

Scrambler (the binary and documentation) is copyright © 1996 Alan
Doyle. All Rights reserved.

Scrambler is SHAREWARE. To register send £5 Sterling or \$10 to
me

I am not responsible for any loss or damage arising from the use of Scrambler; the user takes all such responsibility.

No charge may be made for Scrambler, other than a nominal copy fee. Scrambler may not be distributed with a commercial product without my prior consent. Scrambler must be distributed with all documentation intact and unaltered. Permission is expressly granted to Fred Fish to distribute on his fine collection of disks.

1.7 History

History

- v0.1 CLI based UUEncoding/UUDecoding version (Slow & Unreliable)
Not released. (20th Feb 1996)
- v0.2 Added XXEncoding/XXDecoding.
Not released. (22nd Feb 1996)
- v0.3 Added GUI & removed CLI interface.
Not released. (23rd Feb 1996)
- v0.4 Fixed bug in Outfile String gadget.
Not released. (25th Feb 1996)
- v0.5 Added Asl.library support.
Not released. (27th Feb 1996)
- v0.6 Disabled Multiple Files due to bug. Will be active and fixed in Registered Version.
Not released. (29th Feb 1996)
- v0.7 Added Overwrite & Table Output.
Not released. (1st Mar 1996)
- v0.8 Optimised Encoding Routine, now 500% faster.
Not released. (2nd Mar 1996)
- v0.9 Optimised Decoding Routine, now 600% faster.
Not released. (3rd Mar 1996)
- v1.0 First release of Scrambler.
(5th March 1996)

1.8 Contact the Author

Contacting the author

I can be reached with comments, suggestions, bug reports, praise, money

etc. at the following addresses:

Alan Doyle,
247 Ratoath Road,
Cabra West,
Dublin 7,
IRELAND.

OR BY EMAIL (preferred): tgellen@grex.cyberspace.org

Before reporting a problem, try to figure out if it's really a problem, read carefully this doc.

1.9 Encoding and Decoding

Encoding and Decoding

Scrambler allows you to encode and decode files for mailing via electronic mail. During the ENcoding process, binary files are transformed into (larger) plain-text ASCII text files so that the network's mail programs can handle them. During the DEcoding process, the files are converted back into binary form.

1.10 Multiple Files

Multiple File Handling (REGISTERED VERSIONS ONLY)

For most cases, you can just use Scrambler's default settings, which will encode or decode any size file with the standard format. Some mail systems, however, cannot handle files larger than some maximum size (usually around 32 kilobytes). For the case of posting especially large files, you can change Scrambler's settings to accomodate this.

If you select option (Multiple) then Scrambler will split the output data into sections no larger than the size indicated by
Max Size

The actualy file size will be a little larger because of some extra data written to the file. Further, each output file will have "---cut here---" lines added before and after the data in order to facilitate posting to the net.

If you choose the "Multiple" option, Scrambler will search for all files which have sequenced extensions with the same filename... that is to say, if you have 3 files that belong together, named FILE.1 FILE.2 and FILE.3, and you choose the "Multiple" option, Scrambler will decode each one, appending the data to the output file as it goes. The numbers must be in the correct order for Scrambler to assemble them properly! Additionally, Scrambler will

attempt to skip over all headers and trailers, but will inform you if it is not able to distinguish normal text from UUENCODED data, in which case you will have to trim this text out yourself. It is possible (though unlikely) that some normal text might fool Scrambler into thinking that it has encountered uuencoded data...if you encounter such cases, please notify the author at tgellen@grex.cyberspace.org, and include a sample of the text which caused the problem.

1.11 Cells per Line

Cells per Line

You may change the number of 4-byte cells of output data with option `Cells`, although this is not recommended. Under normal circumstances, the default setting of 15 will produce lines of data which almost any mail system will be able to handle. Under no circumstances should you raise this number above 19; in fact, Scrambler will not allow you to do so. Again, changing this setting, as they say in the army, is contra-indicated.

1.12 Use XX Set

Use XX Set

Scrambler also supports another common form of data encoding, namely the XX-encode standard, which is used primarily to avoid problems associated with transferring files between IBM mainframes and the rest of the world. If you encounter an XX-encoded file you wish to decode, no special steps are necessary; Scrambler will recognize these files and decode them automatically. If you wish to ENcode a file with the XX character set this option will toggle the XX character set on & off.

1.13 Table Output

Table Output

Sometimes encoders use nonstandard character sets, for reasons I don't understand. Usually they will place a 'table' line before the data starts in order to provide other decoders with a list of the characters used in the encoding process. Again, if you only wish to DEcode files with these tables, no extra steps are needed. If you wish to write one of these tables at the head of your data, you may this option.

1.14 Overwrite

Overwrite

If Scrambler finds that a target file already exists, it will warn you about the problem, unless you specify Overwrite, in which case Scrambler will be silent.

1.15 Max Output Size

Max Output Size

This is the MAXIMUM size in bytes for a ENcoded file. This is only used in conjunction with the Multiple Files option.

1.16 Registration

Registration

Scrambler v1.0 is shareware, which means that you are free to distribute it to anyone, as long as you distribute all associated files (namely Scrambler, Scrambler.020 and Scrambler.guide). Further, you are free to use Scrambler without payment for a period of up to thirty (30) days, after which you must register it if you are to continue using it.

Registered users will receive updates of Scrambler as they are written; updates will be sent free of charge via electronic mail, or on diskette (if available for user's computer) for a nominal fee.

To register your copy of Scrambler, simply fill out the form below (or just write the requested information down on a piece of paper), and send it with a check or money order for \$10 or £5 Sterling (made payable to Alan Doyle) to:

Registration form for Scrambler ver. 1.0:

Your name : _____

Your address : _____

city : _____

state: _____

zip : _____

How did you obtain your copy of Scrambler v1.0?

- From an anonymous ftp archive
- From UseNet (NetNews)
- From a bulletin board
- From a friend
- Other (please specify: _____)

1.17 Index

Index

Overwrite

Use XX Set

Table Output

Cells per Line

Max Output Size

Multiple Files
(REGISTERED VERSION ONLY)