

# **KarmaHelp**

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**COLLABORATORS**

	<i>TITLE :</i> KarmaHelp		
<i>ACTION</i>	<i>NAME</i>	<i>DATE</i>	<i>SIGNATURE</i>
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**REVISION HISTORY**

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The REAL Story  
PizzaWare

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## 1.2 Thanks to all the people who helped

KarmaHelp has been a real team effort. Many people have contributed ideas and suggestions. My thanks go out to the following people:

Colin Thompson  
Rune Jacobsen  
Eirik Synnes  
Joe Yurick  
Christopher Dyken  
Agust Arni Jonsson  
Finn Kettner  
Torfinn Ingolfsen  
Michael E. Shea  
Thorkild Stray

## 1.3 What is it?

KarmaHelp - a brief overview

KarmaHelp is a small commodity that lies dormant until you activate it by pressing a hotkey.

KarmaHelp does these things:

- \* Scans a predefined directory (the place you keep your textfiles).
- \* Creates an AmigaGuide file with entries for all the files found.
- \* Displays the AmigaGuide database with AmigaGuide or Multiview.
- \* Operates on any files that support datatypes. Plays tunes, views pictures, shows anims, and more, just by clicking the filename.
- \* Launches any external programs necessary to play tunes, view pix, etc.
- \* Allows files to be organized in any way that you find convenient.
- \* Provides true On-Line Help, linking a program to it's helptext

If your Amiga supports

datatypes

, KarmaHelp can also display

pictures, play sounds or perform any other action the datatype is capable of.

---

Just place the files in a place of your choosing and click the "button". Multiview will be called to "read or play" the file. You must have KS 3.0 or higher to use this feature.

If your system doesn't support datatypes, you can tell KarmaHelp which external programs to call when you "view or play" a file. To accomplish this magic, KarmaHelp must be told which filereader, picture viewer, or mod player you prefer. You can set these options as

```
tooltypes
```

```
.
```

You can define any number of directories to be scanned and displayed by pressing the hotkey you associate with that directory.

## 1.4 Requirements

Minimum System Requirements:

```
Any Amiga
KS 2.04 and up
AmigaGuide          (not included)
Amigaguide.library (not included)
```

If your computer is KS2.x,  
click me

Advanced Features System Requirements:

```
Any Amiga
KS 3.0 and up
AmigaGuide          (not included)
Amigaguide.library (not included)
Multiview           (not included)
```

Optional Requirements

```
Datatype Aware Picture Viewer
Music player
Jpeg viewer
Anim player
Mpeg player
Any other external program that operates on files. Let your
imagination run wild.
```

Compatibility

KarmaHelp has been tested on the following hardware and operating systems:

```
A4000
A2000
A1200
```

---

```
A1000
KS2.05
KS3.0
KS3.1
```

## 1.5 Inside KarmaHelp

Actions taken at run time

Here's a quick rundown on what happens when KarmaHelp is started:

1. Allocate stuff
2. Read tooltypes. Here's what they default to:

```
Helpdir           HELP:
Font              topaz 8
Guidereader       Sys:Utilities/MultiView
Includefiles      ~(#?.(info|bak))
CX_POPKEY         HELP
CX_PRIORITY       0
```

3. Allocate some more stuff
4. Set up CX
5. If CX\_POPUP, create and display guide. If not, wait for user-input

If SCANONCE = Yes

A new guide will only be created if one of the following factors are true:

- \* the guide requested is not the same as the last created
- \* no t:Master Guide exists
- \* something in the directory requested has changed

## 1.6 Usage

How to get the most from KarmaHelp

KarmaHelp, once installed, will scan a directory of your choosing, and display an AmigaGuide page. On the page will be labels (buttons) which represent the name of each of the files inside it.

The files may be text files in any format. They may also be graphic pictures, sound files, mpeg movies, anims, or anything else you might want to read, watch or listen to.

The object here is to be able to click a label and read a textfile, or hear some sounds or watch the pretty pictures, etc. Since no program will accomplish all this, KarmaHelp relies on Multiview and other programs that you identify.

To get the most from KarmaHelp, we need to get off on the right foot.

---



Starting it up

You need to consider how often you will use the program. If you think you will be using it a lot, install it in WBStartup so it will be available at all times.

If you feel you will only use it occasionally, you can place the program anywhere on your disk and simply double click the icon to start it.

In either case, remember that KarmaHelp is a commodity. It can be controlled by the Exchange program. From the Exchange, you can deactivate it or hide it.

You can start KarmaHelp from the shell by typing `RUN >nil: KarmaHelp`. When you do this, KarmaHelp looks for its icon to get the information stored there. If it cannot locate it's icon, it will become KarmaNoHelp, so don't lose the icon.

Which directory?

There are two ways to define which directories will be scanned. The tooltype

```
HELPPDIR
    defines a "master directory" that will be
scanned when you press the the hotkey defined in
CX_POPKEY
.
```

Think carefully about how you want to organize your files. The master directory can be any directory that exists on the drive. It can also be an Assign. You could simply make a directory called "DOCS" and use that in HELPPDIR. Make sure you include the entire path to DOCS and end it with a slash (`dh3:DOCS/`).

If you choose to use an Assign, like `DOCS:`, remember to end it with a colon (`DOCS:`).

Next define the hotkey for the master directory with the tooltype `CX_POPKEY`. The default is the HELP key, all by itself. You may need to change this to some other keypress combination. If the HELP key (all by itself) is used by another program, try pressing the Left Alt key and HELP. If nothing pops up on the screen, this combination will be a good one to assign to your HELPPDIRectory.

That's a good start, but KarmaHelp can do much more.

The HELPPDIRectory can be defined to display the contents of several directories. If you do this, you must select the tooltype `DIRTREE=Yes`.

This method allows you to include directories that reside in partitions all over the drive.

At this point, you can now press your HELP key and a  
Master Guide  
will

appear and display the contents of DOCS.

If that wasn't enough, KarmaHelp allows you to define any number of directories to be accessed by a unique hotkey, other than the one you defined as the CX\_POPKEY for the HELPDIRECTORY.

By using the

#### HOTKEYS

tooltype, you can define a hotkey to display another directory (or Assign). With this kind of flexibility, you can organize your files however you like. You could define different hotkeys to display the following directories:

```
lalt 1=EMAIL
lalt 2=MAN
lalt 3=JPEG
lalt 4=MGEF
lalt 5=README
lalt 6=FONTS
lalt 7=DOWNLOADS
```

You probably don't have all these directories, but you can see that this is a powerful feature.

#### On-Line Help Using TITLES and TITLESCAN

So far, we've seen how you can organize directories and display them as buttons in the Master Guide. KarmaHelp will also allow you to link a text file to a running program. This gives you true "on-line help" for programs that don't have it.

To get started, you must select a program that has a helptext file.

TITLES is keyed to the HELPKEY that you defined as CX\_POPKEY.

To get a specific help text to appear, you must first tell KarmaHelp how to identify the program. The identification is made by what appears in the Screen's title bar, or what appears in the Window's title bar, or both.

Once you have done that, you must tell KarmaHelp which text file to display.

Here is the syntax of the tooltype:

```
TITLES=(SCREEN_TITLE|WINDOW_TITLE|TEXTFILE_NAME)
```

To get the information you need, RUN the program and note the what appears in the Screen's title bar. If the program uses a custom screen, it is likely the author has included the program's name and a copyright notice.

If the program produces a window, note the text that appears in the title bar of the window.

For our example, we will use that wildly popular program, Karma486, an emulator. The author of Karma486 provided documentation in the

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form of an AmigaGuide document called Karma486.guide. Unfortunately for you, he didn't link the two together by providing a HELP key.

Now you have the information needed to enter the tooltype. Let's use Karma486 as an example:

When you run Karma486, a custom screen appears. In its title bar the following text appears:

```
Karma486 turns your Amiga into a PC, ©1997 by Phillip K. Dick
```

A window appears on the screen and it's title says:

```
MS^DOS Version 15, or with a Pentium, Version 14.996
```

The AmigaGuide help file is located in Work:antiq/PC and its filename is 486.guide.

With these three pieces of information we can enter this tooltype:

```
TITLES=(Karma486#?|MS^DOS#?|Work:antiq/PC/486.guide
```

Once KarmaHelp has been restarted, activating the new tooltype, you can run Karma486, press your HELPKEY and the file 486.guide will be displayed. This is true On-Line Help.

Some added details:

Notice the use of Amiga Wildcards (#?). You need not enter the entire text, but only enough to make it unique.

The text is NOT case sensitive.

You do not need to enter both titles if one is sufficient to identify your program. If, for example, the Screen Title is not relevant, use #? as a placekeeper to indicate this.

```
TITLES=(#?|MS^DOS#?|Work:antiq/PC/486.guide
```

If the helptext is in the form of an AmigaGuide database, AND you use AmigaGuide as a GUIDEREADER, you may specify a node (document) within the database to be displayed. You must learn the node name by viewing the database with a text editor.

Using our example, you could make the node "Keywords" appear when you press the HELPKEY:

```
TITLES=(Karma486#?|MS^DOS#?|Work:antiq/PC/486.guide DOCUMENT Keywords)
```

For more informaton, see

```
TITLES  
and  
TITLSCAN  
Which Operating System?
```

KarmaHelp will work well under both 2.x and 3.x. If you are using 2.x, you will lose the advantage of having Multiview being able to figure

---

out what kind of file you want to view. MultiView uses datatypes to perform this magic. Datatypes are not available under 2.x.

Don't despair. KarmaHelp offers a way for both 2.x and 3.x users to manually determine what kind of file you clicked on and what to do about it.

The

#### FILTERS

tooltpe lets you identify a file by a pattern and call another program to display the file. Here are some examples:

```
FILTERS=(filetype=program|filetype=program)
```

```
FILTERS=(#?.jpg=dh2:viewers/FJPEG|#?.ILBM=sys:c/vt)
```

FILE ENDS WITH	CALL THIS PROGRAM
~~~~~	~~~~~
.jpg	dh2:viewers/FJPEG
.ILBM	sys:c/vt
.mpg	hd1:c2/mpeg_play
.doc	sys:utilities/muchmore

Once you have set this up, you can click on a label and KarmaHelp will examine your choices. If the file matches one that you have defined, the associated program will be called and the file will be passed to it. If this sounds like a program launcher, then you are beginning to get the idea.

If you look closely at the example above, you will notice that the programs called (FJPEG, vt, etc) are called without command line options.

A command line option cannot be included with the FILTERS tooltype. There is an easy way around this. Just have KarmaHelp call a DOS script. The script, in turn can call your program with any command line options you require.

Here's an example of a real script:

You want GIF files to be shown using FastView and you want the pictures to be scaled to fit the into the screen resolution. This is done with FastView's SCALE command line option switch.

The script will look something like this:

```
--- [File begin: S:FV_SCALE] -----
.key FILE/A
HD1:Graphics/FastView <FILE> SCALE
--- [File end: S:FV_SCALE] -----
```

The script should reside in the S: directory (as scripts usually do). You will also have to set it's script bit by writing

```
Protect S:FV_SCALE +s
```

at the Shell prompt. NOTE: Some editors, such as Commodore's own Ed, reset all the protection bits when overwriting files. Therefore you may have to set the script bit again if you modify the script.

The only thing remaining to do is to tell KarmaHelp to execute this script each time it encounters a GIF file with the following tooltype:

```
FILTERS=(#?.gif=S:FV_SCALE)
```

What happens if the file you clicked on is not defined?

If you are operating under 2.x, KarmaHelp will call the program you have defined in

```
GUIDEREADER
```

and have that program try to display the file. This won't work too well if you have AmigaGuide try to read an Anim file. You can see the perils here. It's a good idea to link every kind of file you have to the appropriate reader.

Under 3.x, the unknown file will be passed to Multiview, which will attempt to read it with datatypes.

Which mode to use

The files you display with KarmaHelp should be organized in a logical manner. The best way to accomplish this is to create subdirectories and fill them with similar files. Set

```
RECURSIVESCAN
```

```
to Yes so the
```

subdirectories will appear on the Master Guide.

If you have a lot of individual files, you may find that the

```
DIRTREE
```

```
option displays too much information to be easily digested.
```

```
SCANONCE
```

```
will speed up the operation dramatically.
```

It is also intelligent. If the contents of a directory have been changed since it was last scanned, the directory will be scanned again, to update its contents.

The tooltypes you set are GLOBAL in nature. They affect the appearance of the Master Guide when scanning the directories you define with

```
HOTKEYS
```

```
or
```

```
HELPPDIR
```

```
.
```

---

## 1.7 Distribution

### Distribution and Copyright Notice

KarmaHelp is copyright 1995 by Christopher Landmark Naas. Although KarmaHelp is freeware, the author retains all rights to the program.

The author is not responsible for any damage that the program may cause.

KarmaHelp may be freely distributed for non-commercial purposes, as long as all the files in the original archive are present and have not been modified in any way.

No charge for KarmaHelp may be made, other than a reasonable cost to cover the media and copying time.

If you wish to include KarmaHelp on a magazine cover disk, you may do so as long as you send a complimentary copy of the magazine issue in which it appears to my home address. The entire package, including these docs must be distributed. Since KarmaHelp is a continuing project please

contact  
me in advance to ensure you have the latest version.

## 1.8 Datatypes

### Datatypes

KickStart 3.0 and 3.1 support a new class of features called datatypes. If you are using KS 2.04 or 2.05, you do not have datatypes.

Datatypes are specialists which tell other programs everything they need to know to use a file. It's time for an example:

You ask MultiView to show you a picture called HotBabe.gif. MultiView looks at the file and identifies it as a GIF format picture file. MultiView does not know how to display this file, so it checks a list of available datatypes to see if there is a GIF datatype. If the GIF datatype can be found, MultiView politely asks for the format (internal structure) of a GIF. The datatype informs Multiview just how to display a GIF.

Now, armed with the knowledge of GIFs, Multiview displays the picture for you. Programs that use datatypes are called Datatype Aware.

Datatypes come in many flavors. They can define sound files, picture formats, text formats and many other specialized kinds of file formats.

Why do you need to know so much about datatypes? KarmaHelp allows you to select a picture file or sound bite or any other specialized file and "Play" it. To accomplish this magic, you must have the

appropriate datatype installed on your drive. New datatypes are being released to AmiNet all the time. Check for them in util/dtype.

The files must appear in one of the directories you specified with the HELPDIR or HOTKEYS tooltypes.

## 1.9 ToolTypes

### Tooltypes

All user definable settings are controlled through the icon tooltypes. If you are not familiar with tooltypes,

click me

.

The tooltypes are:

```
AUTOQUIT
  AUTOQUIT=<Yes/No>

CX_POPKEY
  CX_POPKEY=<hotkey>

CX_POPUP
  CX_POPUP=<Yes/No>

CX_PRIORITY
  CX_PRIORITY=<priority>

DIRTREE
  DIRTREE=<Yes/No>

DONOTWAIT
  DONOTWAIT

FILTERS
  * FILTERS=(filetype=program|filetype=program)

FONT
  FONT=<fontname and size>

GUIDEREADER
  GUIDEREADER=<guidereader path and name>

HELPDIR
  HELPDIR=<directory name>

HOTKEYS
  * HOTKEYS=(key=dir:|key=dir:|key=dir:)

INCLUDEFILES
  INCLUDEFILES=~(#?.(info|bak))

RECURSIVESCAN
```

---

```
RECURSIVESCAN=<Yes/No>
```

```
SCANONCE
```

```
SCANONCE=<Yes/No>
```

```
TITLES
```

```
* TITLES=(SCREENTITLE | WINDOWTITLE | <PATH><GUIDENAME><NODE>)
```

```
TITLSCAN
```

```
TITLSCAN=<Yes/No>
```

```
XPKGGUIDE
```

```
XPKGGuide=<Yes/No>
```

\* The asterick indicates the tooltypes that may be used more than once.

## 1.10 donotwa

```
DONOTWAIT
```

DONOTWAIT is simply there so the Workbench won't wait for KarmaHelp to return when loading. If you have placed KarmaHelp in the WBStartup drawer, include DONOTWAIT.

## 1.11 cx\_popk

```
CX_POPKEY=<hotkey>
```

CX\_POPKEY is the hotkey you wish to use to pop up the AmigaGuide document with links to all your documentation files.

```
CX_POPKEY=rawkey help
```

```
CX_POPKEY=control ralt h
```

Some of the more common key abbreviations are:

```
Left Alt    lalt
Right Alt   ralt
Left Amiga  lamiga
Right Amiga ramiga
Control     ctrl
```

Note: you may select other directories with other hotkeys. See the

```
HOTKEYS
```

```
tooltype for more information.
```

---



## 1.12 cx\_prio

```
CX_PRIORITY=<priority>
```

CX\_PRIORITY sets KarmaHelp's CX priority.

```
CX_PRIORITY=0      (This is the default setting)
CX_PRIORITY=10
```

This tooltype will control in which order the programmes in WBStartup will be started. Can be from -127 to 127.

## 1.13 cx\_popu

```
CX_POPUP=<Yes/No>
```

If you select CX\_POPUP=Yes, the Master Guide will appear when the system boots up. This is not normally done, so you should leave this tooltype alone unless you have a special need for it.

If CX\_POPUP=No, KarmaHelp will not display it until you signal it to do so by pressing the POPKEY you defined with CX\_POPKEY, or HOTKEYS.

CX\_POPUP applies all the time. The person who requested it wanted it so he could use KH as a "normal application" that instantly pops up and quits when it's finished. That's also why I added the AUTOQUIT feature. :) Used in combination, KH becomes a "normal application", that displays the HELPDIR when started and quits when you quit your viewer.

## 1.14 helpdir

```
HELPDIR=<directory name>
```

HELPDIR is the directory where you keep your documentation files. The name must end with a / or a :, that is, you must "terminate" the path.

```
HELPDIR=HELP:
HELPDIR=Sys:Help/
```

You may define more than one HELPDIR. Multiple HelpDirectories are defined like this:

```
HELPDIR=(HELP:|Ram:|Com98:Help/|Hd0:Docs/) ..
```

If only one main HELPDIR is defined, the parentheses are not required. Multiple main HELPDIRS are only scanned if the

```
DIRTREE
tooltype
```

= Yes. If DIRTREE=No, only the first directory defined as HELPDIR is scanned. You can of course still scan several directories using the

```
HOTKEYS
```

tooltype.

## 1.15 hotkeys

```
HOTKEYS=(key=dir:|key=dir:|key=dir:)  
HOTKEYS=(key=dir:|key=dir:|key=dir:)
```

HOTKEYS allows you assign other directories to individual hotkeys. This does not effect the HELPDIR and CX\_POPKEY selections. HOTKEYS simply gives you more flexibility.

The format "key=dir:" let's you assign a hotkey (key) to any directory (dir:) you like. You may define any number of these pairs. All of the other tooltypes apply to these pairs. The directory must end with a colon or a slash. The directory may be an Assign. Ex:

```
HOTKEYS=(lalt 1=SYS:S/|lalt 2=MAN:|ctrl f1=downloads:)
```

By pressing the Left Alt key and the 1 key together, KarmaHelp will display the contents of SYS:S.

You are allowed to enter 128 characters in each tooltype line. If you run out of room when defining the pairs of HotKeys and directories, you may add another HOTKEYS tooltype. Here's an example:

```
HOTKEYS=(lalt 1=SYS:S/|lalt 2=MAN:|ctrl f1=downloads:)  
HOTKEYS=(ralt f1=docs:|rawkey f10=ACE:docs/|ctrl f2=DH1:KarmaNote/docs/)
```

You may add as many extra HOTKEYS tooltypes as you can keep track of. The sky and your memory is the limit.

## 1.16 font

```
FONT=<fontname and size>
```

FONT is the font you wish KarmaHelp to use in the AmigaGuide file it creates.

```
FONT=xen.font 9  
FONT=topaz.font 8  
FONT=karma.font 9
```

## 1.17 guiderea

```
GUIDEREADER=<guidereader path and name>
```

GUIDEREADER sets the AmigaGuide viewer you wish to use.

---

```
GUIDEREADER=Sys:Utilities/MultiView
GUIDEREADER=Sys:Utilities/AmigaGuide
```

If your Amiga is using KS2, then you MUST change the GUIDEREADER to AmigaGuide. Multiview is a KS3-only program.

## 1.18 includef

```
INCLUDEFILES=<list>
```

INCLUDEFILES tells KarmaHelp which files to include or exclude from the Master Guide.

You may use AmigaDOS wildcards to select or filter out any kind of files. To select certain files, based on their suffixes, use this format:

```
INCLUDEFILES=(#?.(guide|doc))
```

This will filter out any files that do not end with .guide or .doc. This is a fairly restrictive way to filter files. You may find it easier to filter files by excluding certain types like icons, backups, etc. The format for excluding files by suffix is:

```
INCLUDEFILES=~(#?.(info|bak))
```

INCLUDEFILES defaults to excluding .info and .bak files, using this pattern: ~(#?.(info|bak)). This is a good general purpose filter and you may not need to change it.

- \* You may Include patterns or Exclude them, but not both.
- \* The ~ means "match anything but (what's inside the parens)".
- \* The | is the shifted backspace

## 1.19 recursiv

```
RECURSIVESCAN=<Yes/No>
```

If RECURSIVESCAN=Yes, all subdirectories and in turn their subdirectories of HELPDIR will be scanned and added to the Master Guide. Each subdirectory will get it's own button linked to a page containing a listing of all files and directories in that directory. You can have an unlimited number of subdirectories.

## 1.20 dirtre

```
DIRTREE=<Yes/No>
```

If DIRTREE=Yes, KarmaHelp will create a dirtree-style look on the Master Guide. Of course, this looks best with RECURSIVESCAN enabled.

---

When DIRTREE is selected, MasterGuide will display a listing of all the subdirectories, immediately followed by the files in these subdirectories. For a graphical display of this option, click  
DIRTREE  
.

## 1.21 scanonce

SCANONCE=<Yes/No>

SCANONCE is a way to speed up the display. Normally, KarmaHelp reads the directory from the drive each time you click a "directory" button, or run KarmaHelp. Scanning the directory takes time.

If you set the SCANONCE tooltype to "Yes", KarmaHelp will scan the Help directory you have selected only one time. Then it remembers the contents of the directory until you reboot the Amiga.

What if the contents of the directory change? KarmaHelp will be notified of the change and scan the directory the next time the Master Guide is displayed.

If you have the SCANONCE tooltype enabled, the Master Guide will only be created under these conditions:

- \* If you scan a new directory.
- \* If any file in the directory last scanned has changed.

This does not apply to files located in subdirectories of the directory you scanned.

- \* SCANONCE has special significance when used with CX\_POPUP. For an explanation, see  
CX\_POPUP  
.

## 1.22 autoquit

AUTOQUIT=<Yes/No>

If AUTOQUIT=Yes, KarmaHelp will be removed from memory after having displayed the Master Guide. If AUTOQUIT=No, KarmaHelp will stay resident until you send it a break signal or tell the Exchange to remove it.

## 1.23 filters

---

```
FILTERS=(filetype=program|filetype=program)
```

Besides reading textfiles, KarmaHelp can "launch" programs by clicking a label. As an example of this feature, let's say you have placed some JPEG pictures in a directory that KarmaHelp scans. The pictures will have the suffix ".jpg" to identify them.

When you click on one of these pictures, KarmaHelp looks at the tooltip FILTERS to see if you have linked a viewer to to display files with a ".jpg" suffix.

Here's how you would link your favorite JPEG viewer to display JPGs:

```
FILTERS=(#?.jpg=sys:c/FJPEG)
```

The argument defines the suffix to recognize, followed by an Equals sign, and ends with the path/filename of the viewer.

As with all tooltips, you must include the full path to the filename.

The FILTERS tooltip allows to to match a filetype with an appropriate program to view or play the file.

If you wish to define more pairs, just separate them with a vertical bar "|". You have a limit of 128 characters on the line. If you run out of space on the line, you may define more FILTERS tooltips.

```
FILTERS=(#?.jpg=sys:c/FJPEG|#?.mpg=dh1mpeg/mp103)
FILTERS=(#?.LZX=sys:s/unarc.scp|#?.art=SYS:c4/KarmaNote)
FILTERS=(#?.doc=Sys:C2/PPMore)
```

If you click on a file that is not defined, KarmaHelp will send the file to Multiview, which can read or display several kinds of files. If you do not have Multiview, KarmaHelp will become momentarily dazed, then recover gracefully, and go on as though nothing happened. In technical terms, it will fail silently. No harm, No foul.

## 1.24 titles

```
TITLES=(SCREENTITLE|WINDOWTITLE|<PATH><GUIDENAME>[DOCUMENT ←
      NODE])
```

This feature allows you to link a text file to a program. This gives you true "on-line help" for programs that don't have it.

To use this feature you must include the tooltip TITLSCAN=Yes.

TITLES is keyed to the HELPKEY that you defined as CX\_POPKEY. To get a specific help text to appear, you must first tell KarmaHelp how to identify the program. The identification is made by what appears in the Screen's title bar, or what appears in the Window's title bar.

Once you have done that, you must tell KarmaHelp which text file to

display. If you use AmigaGuide as a file reader, you may further specify the node to be presented. Following the filename of the AmigaGuide file include DOCUMENT and then the node name.

For more information, see  
USAGE

.

## 1.25 xpkguide

```
XPKGUIDE=<Yes/No>
```

Set this tooltip to =Yes if you use XPKGGuide. This will make KarmaHelp fully compatible with the XPKGGuide guideviewer.

## 1.26 titlescan

```
TITLESCAN=<Yes/No>
```

This tooltip is a switch to turn on or off the TITLES tooltip. If you want to use the TITLES feature, set:

```
TITLESCAN=Yes
```

## 1.27 ToolTypes Primer

### WHAT'S A TOOLTIP?

KarmaHelp is a powerful program with many options that you, the user can define. For instance, you can read files with either AmigaGuide or Multiview.

KarmaHelp must be launched, or started, by clicking it's icon. When you click the icon, KarmaHelp reads the icon to see what instructions you have given it.

These instructions are called tooltips. A tooltip can look like this:

```
GUIDEREADER=Sys:Utilities/AmigaGuide
```

This tells KarmaHelp that you want to use AmigaGuide to read files. Notice that there is a tooltip "GUIDEREADER" followed by an Equals sign (=) and some text to describe your choice. This is the basic format of tooltips.

SETTING THE TOOLTYPES

---

Your Amiga has a built-in tooltip editor. It lets you add, delete or change the tooltips of any icon.

To get to this editor, first you must open a window on the WorkBench that holds the icon. In this case, KarmaHelp should be in the WBStartup drawer. Open that drawer and click the icon ONCE. The image of the icon will change slightly, showing that it is "Selected".

Once the icon has been selected, move the mouse pointer to the top of the WorkBench screen and hold down the right mouse button.

Select the menu "Icons" and then put the pointer on the menu item labeled "Info". Release the right mouse button.

If you've done everything right, you will be rewarded with a new window that has a picture of the icon you selected.

In the box labeled "Tool Types" you will see a listing of all of the tooltips available for KarmaHelp. Use the scroll bar to view the entire list.

Pick a tooltip you want to change. For our example, let's choose the HELPDIR tooltip. Use the mouse to select the tooltip and single click the LEFT mouse button.

This causes the tooltip to be copied into the little box below the list of tooltips. Now you can use the mouse and keyboard to change the directory to anything you wish. When you are finished editing, press the RETURN key.

At this point, you can edit more of the tooltips. When you are done editing, click the SAVE button. This will make your changes permanent.

Permanent, Yes. Immediately available, No. To see the changes you made, you can reboot the system. You could also select KarmaHelp from the Commodities Exchange and click the REMOVE button. This will take KarmaHelp out of memory. To restart it with the new tooltips, just double click its icon. The Exchange is available by pressing the Control, Left Alt and HELP keys together.

If for any reason you do not want a tooltip to appear in the list, you can surround the tooltip with parentheses. This will cause the tooltip to be ignored. Ex.: (DONOTWAIT)

The tooltips may appear in any order.  
The information in the tooltips is NOT case sensitive.

You may find that the tooltip editor provided by Commodore is difficult to use when editing long lines. The HELPDIR, HOTKEYS and FILTERS tooltips can be as long as 128 bytes. A better way to edit the tooltips would be to somehow load them into your favorite text editor.

I have written a new tooltip editor that will allow you to do just that. The program is called KToolTip and is available on Aminet in the util/wb directory. K(arma)ToolTip is freeware. It will make editing tooltips a pleasurable experience, even for the Amiga novice.

---

Now that you know how to change the tooltypes, go back to the tooltypes section and see what they do and what they can do for YOU.

## 1.28 Installation

KarmaHelp is very easy to install. To install it, simply follow these easy steps :)

1. Drag the KarmaHelp icon into your Sys:WBStartup drawer.
2. Click on the KarmaHelp icon once, and choose "Information" from the menu. It is located under the "Icon" heading.
3. Edit the tooltypes to suit your needs.
4. Drag the KarmaHelp.Guide icon into the directory you defined as your HELPDIR. Put all other programme's documentation files here also.
5. Reboot
6. Use the hotkey you defined, and enjoy.
7. Read these docs.

## 1.29 Contacting the author

If you wish to contact me for any reason, here's how you can do it:

EMail: christon@powertech.no  
Snail M.: Christopher Landmark Naas  
Solveien 3a  
1533 Moss  
Norway  
Telep: +47 69251264  
BBS: +47 69256117 (Username: "Christopher Naas")

Remember, if you use this program, you have to let me know. Either EMail me or write me a postcard. Source tradeable for a CyberVision graphics card ;)

## 1.30 Laugh?

A short history of how KarmaHelp was born:

--

KarmaHelp was created over a period of one big pizza, 1.5 litres of Coca Cola, the latest Prodigy CD and one freezing drive to get the pizza. Oh, I nearly forgot one hour on the phone with Kjell Gudim and a 454 caliber nose crusher. In other words, a couple of hours effective programming and 3 hours of fun.

KarmaHelp has not been tested on anything other than my custom built Amiga 4000/040 Black Tower (no, not the wine). If it doesn't work on

---



your system, please let me know. I think it should work on all Amigas as long as you run OS2.x or better.

If you have any ideas for improving KarmaHelp, please let me know.

A special thanks to Kjell Gudim for good music, great pizza and moral support in my hour of need.

Uhm.. nothing more to say, really. Please enjoy the fruits of my labour, while I relax with some good music and a lovely headache.

Be good, and stay away from that cat, Mathias.

KarmaHelp 1.0 was made because I was bored and I had never seen a program that organised your HELP documents in an easy to use way.

KarmaHelp 1.2 was made because people wanted more, more, more. Hope they are happy with it. :)

KarmaHelp 1.3 was made because I had a 10 minute study break this Sunday evening, and I feel like shit because of my cold.

I know of no bugs in version 2.0, so if you come across any, please let me know, and tell me how I can reproduce it.

As far as I know, KarmaHelp works on all Amiga's with OS2.x or better.

That's about it for now. And remember, if you use KarmaHelp, let me know.

Bye.

## 1.31 DirTree Example

DIRTREE is a way of displaying the subdirectories and files of your HELP: directory.

The name of your HELP: directory will be listed first. Files in the root of this directory will be listed next:

```
HELP:
KarmaHelp.guide -
bgui.guide      -
WANT.guide      -
ReKeyIt.guide   -
```

Each subdirectory will be represented by its path and the Files in this directory are represented like this:

```
HELP:Magazines
AR301.guide      -
AR302.guide      -
AR303.guide      -
AR304.guide      -
AmigaLink#1.guide - Premier Issue
```

Additional subdirectories and their files will be represented in the same manner. If you have defined multiple HELPDIRECTORIES, you must set the DIRTREE tooltype to Yes.

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KarmaHelp

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WHAT IS IT?

### 1.33 mg

Master Guide, created by KarmaHelp.  
KarmaHelp is ©1995 Christopher Landmark Naas

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### 1.34 History & Todo

KarmaHelp history.

- 1.0 Initial release
  - 1.1 Added version string :)  
Made the sorting case-independant.
    - Requested by Rune Jacobsen.KarmaHelp now deletes the guide it creates when you quit it.
    - Requested by Eirik Synnes.Fixed the CX interface infotext.
  - 1.2 Added recursive scanning when the RECURSIVESCAN tooltype is active. Subdirectories will then receive their own button with a link to a page containing the directory of that subdirectory. An unlimited number of subdirectories and sub-subdirectories etc. is supported.
    - This was requested by a lot of people.Added the tooltypes CX\_POPUP, which makes KarmaHelp build and display the Master Guide each time it is run, and AUTOQUIT which makes KarmaHelp quit after having displayed the
-

- Master Guide.  
- Requested by Joe Yurick.
- 1.3 Implemented INCLUDEFILES tooltype. Using standard AmigaDos wildcards, you can now select which files are to be displayed in the Master Guide. Defaults to excluding .info and .bak files.  
- Requested by Eirik Synnes.
- 1.4 Implemented SCANONCE tooltype. If =Yes, the Master Guide will only be created if it doesn't allready exist.  
- Requested by Agust Arni Jonsson.  
Implemented DIRTREE tooltype.  
- Requested by Christopher Dyken.
- 1.5 Removed some useless CX code.  
Added HOTKEYS tooltype.  
- Requested by Colin Thompson.
- 1.6 SCANONCE is now aware that KH can scan more than one directory, and if the last one scanned is not identical with the one requested, it will scan it and create a new Master Guide  
Optimized the guidecreation a bit.  
Added the FILTERS tooltype.  
- Requested by Agust Arni Jonsson.  
Added notification to the directory last scanned.  
- Requested by Finn Kettner.
- 1.7 An unlimited number of FILTERS tooltypes are now supported.  
The formatting is still the same.  
- Requested by Colin Thompson  
An unlimited number of HOTKEYS tooltypes are now supported.  
Now supports an unlimited number of main helpdirs.  
- Requested by Torfinn Ingolfsen, Agust Arni Jonsson, Finn Kettner and Michael E. Shea  
Added TITLESCAN and TITLES tooltypes.  
Made KarmaHelp compatible with XPKGuide. Set the XPKGUIDE tooltype to =Yes if you use XPKGuide as your guideviewer.  
Removed hits when KarmaHelp was run several times. You can now have as many KarmaHelps as you want running.  
Enabled the INDEX button on the toolbar. Pressing it will now jump to the directory you requested scanned.
- 2.0 Bumped the revision number :)

Todo on KarmaHelp.

GUI option from exchange, same as MultiCX. Also use notification on the icon and update options when saved.  
Don't show dirs that have no files in them.  
SMARTTITLES, scans for guides that match the window title.  
Read file bits, e.g. files with the S bit set are executed.  
Anything you ask me nicely to do.

Known bugs

If you define incorrect paths, KH may hang.