HandyDMS V1.3 documentation

COLLABORATORS

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Chapter 1

HandyDMS V1.3 documentation

1.1   HandyDMS V1.3 manual (© 1994,95 by Martin Lindhorst)

```
                                    HandyDMS V1.3

                        Released on 13.02.95

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                       Thanks
                                        ...and never forget...
            O N L Y   A M I G A   M A K E S   I T   P O S S I B L E !
```

1.2   HandyDMS - probably the best GUI for DMS!

```
                Welcome to HandyDMS V1.3!

    HandyDMS is a graphical user-interface (GUI) for the popular packer
                DMS
                   .
```

I myself had been looking for a program of this kind for a long time, but none of
the existing ones could convince me; either the user-interface was out of date
and only DMS V1.11 was supported, or the program was 250(!) KB big.
HandyDMS against it was especially adapted to the newest versions of DMS and
thus it supports (almost) every option, it offers a nice user-interface in the
´Look and Feel´ of OS 2/3 and is just about 15 KB small!
There will be newer versions of HandyDMS as soon as a new DMS with new options
is released.
In contrast with the program
                DMSWB
                , which comes directly from M. Pendec, the
author of DMS, HandyDMS is very flexible to use and has (IMHO) LESS BUGS! ;-)
You just have to setup the path of your dms-packer, and you get control over ALL
DMS-operations and options at one sight! Due to the clever and compact ←
    arrangement
of the gadgets HandyDMS does not need to adapt its window to every DMS-operation, ←
     as
it happens with DMSWB.
Additionally you cannot execute just four DMS-operations, but up to TEN! The ←
    amount
is just limited by your RAM (and of course by the amount of drives).
Even another DMS-tool can be used thru HandyDMS, e.g. Mapus!

BLABLA! :-)

1.3 Legal stuff...

                  Legal stuff:

HandyDMS is
                Shareware
                ! That means that it may be copied and passed at will,
as long as all files of the original-archive (see below) are copied! If HandyDMS
shall be selled, the price for the disc containing it may not be higher than 6 ←
    US$!

These Files must be copied in any case:

HandyDMS/HandyDMS   : the main-program
HandyDMS/HandyDMS.info   : and its icon
HandyDMS/PrefsUpdate   : the prefs-updater
HandyDMS/UpdatePrefs   : the wb-prefs-updater
HandyDMS/UpdatePrefs.info   : and its icon
HandyDMS/HandyDMS.install   : a small install-script
HandyDMS/HandyDMS.install.info   : and its icon
HandyDMS/Deutsch/HandyDMS.guide : German AmigaGuide-manual
HandyDMS/Deutsch/HandyDMS.guide.info : and its icon
HandyDMS/Deutsch/Reg.Form   : the german registration-form
HandyDMS/Deutsch/Reg.Form.info   : and its icon
HandyDMS/English/HandyDMS.guide : English AmigaGuide-manual
HandyDMS/English/HandyDMS.guide.info : and its icon
HandyDMS/English/Reg.Form   : the english registration-form
HandyDMS/English/Reg.Form.info   : and its icon
HandyDMS/libs/Reqtools.library   : the needed library

```
All files have to be passed the way the
                Author
                 has released them,
THEY MAY NOT BE MODIFIED IN ANY MANNER!
```

The author takes no responsibility for the use or misuse of HandyDMS, USE IT
AT YOUR OWN RISK!

1.4 Shareware...

HandyDMS is Shareware:

This unregistered version of HandyDMS is crippled by small restrictions
and »nervy-requesters«:

- the path of the DMS-program can´t be saved, you must set it up every time
  you start HandyDMS.
- a requester, which is not very hindering at all, appears at the start and
  end of HandyDMS. It should just load your conscience and encourage you to
  register!

If you like HandyDMS, *PLEASE* register! You would motivate me to improve
HandyDMS and support the concept of Shareware! THANK YOU VERY MUCH!

Registered users will get a personal version of HandyDMS send by mail WITHIN TWO
DAYS after I recieved the Shareware-fee of 10 US$ or 15 DM. The registered
version is of course in no way crippled!
Furthermore registered users are notified (also by mail) shortly before releasing
the respective next version of HandyDMS, if this wish is expressed in the
registration. Registered users can send me a disk WITH ENOUGH RETURN POSTAGE
at any time, they will recieve the newest version of HandyDMS by return.

Please send the Shareware-fee of 10 US$ or 15 DM (cash is the best!) ALONG WITH
THE FILLED OUT REGISTRATION-FORM ("Reg.form") to:

Martin Lindhorst
Rambergstr. 41
30161 Hannover
Germany

1.5 Installation...

```
                Installation:
```

The installation of HandyDMS is very simple:

```
Copy the main-program (´HandyDMS´) and its icon (´HandyDMS.info´)
where you want them.
Make sure the
                Reqtools.library
                 V38 is in your LIBS: directory!
```

If you wish you can use the supplied installer-script to install HandyDMS!

1.6   Usage...

The functions of HandyDMS

Functions in the Main-window

Functions in the Prefs-window

1.7   Functions in the Mainwindow...

The Mainwindow:

Pulldown-menu

Gadgets

1.8   Functions in the Prefswindow...

The Prefswindow:

Gadgets

1.9   Usage...

Menu-items in the Pull-down-menu of the Mainwindow:

PROJECT/About:
Information about HandyDMS... (huuuh, really?)

PROJECT/Quit:
Quits HandyDMS, the settings are NOT saved automatically!

PREFS/Edit Prefs:
Opens the
                Prefswindow
                .

PREFS/Load Prefs:

The settings are loaded from ENV: and initialised. If there are no HandyDMS-
settings in ENV:, or if loading the prefs failed for another reason, the
windows remain unchanged at all.
Besides, HandyDMS once again searches for drives usable with DMS and refreshs
the drive-list.

PREFS/Save Prefs:
The current settings are saved to ENV: and ENVARC:. Saved is

 - the state of all gadgets (except filenames) in the Main- and Prefswindow.
 - the current directory of the Filerequester.
 - the position of the Main- and Prefswindow.

THE DMS-PATH IS NOT SAVED IN THE UNREGISTERED VERSION!

1.10   Usage...

                    Gadgets of the main-window and their function:

WRITE:
The selected DMS-archive is depacked to a disk.
Options/Gadgets, that affect WRITE:

            From/to

            Track xx to xx

            Validate

            Verify

            PC

            HD
            READ:
A disk is packed into the archive with the selected name.
Options/Gadgets, that affect READ:

            From/to

            Track xx to xx

            Validate

            Packmode

            Bitmap

            PC

            HD
            VIEW:
Information about the selected DMS-archive is shown.
Options/Gadgets, that affect VIEW:

Full info
VIEWDIZ:
Shows a Dizcription of the selected DMS-archive, if exists.
Options/Gadgets, that affect VIEWDIZ:

Savediz
TEST:
Checks the selected DMS-archive.
Options/Gadgets, that affect TEST:
none

REPACK:
Repacks the selected DMS-archive with the current settings, THE NAME OF THE
SELECTED TXT-FILE IS IN THIS FUNCTION THE NAME OF THE NEW ARCHIVE!
Options/Gadgets, that affect REPACK:

From/to

Track xx to xx

Packmode
APPEND:
The selected tracks are packed and appended to the selected DMS-archive.
Options/Gadgets, that affect APPEND:

From/to

Track xx to xx

Validate

Packmode

Bitmap
BANNER:
Shows the text that was packed with the archive.
Options/Gadgets, that affect BANNER:
none

MAKESFX:
Creates a SELF-EXTRACTING archive from the selected DMS-file, which gets
the archive-name + extension ".SFX".
Options/Gadgets, that affect MAKESFX:
none

USERTOOL:
This gadget is FREELY CONFIGURABLE! (See
Prefswindow
)

Get DMS:
Opens a filerequester to choose a DMS-archive.
If a DMS-operation is started without an archive being specified, this
requester opens automatically.

Get TXT:
Opens a filerequester to choose a text-file.

If you don´t want a text-file, just leave it blank.

Get DIZ:
Opens a filerequester to choose a File_id.diz-file.
If you don´t want a file_id.diz-file, just leave it blank.

Refer to the DMS-manual to get a more detailed description!

1.11 Usage...

                 Gadgets of the prefs-window and their function:

Get DMS.exe:
Opens a filerequester to choose the DMS-packer.
THE DMS-PATH MUST BE SPECIFIED!

Extern:
Opens a filerequester to choose the external program, which shall be started
when activating the "usergadget".

Syntax:
In this gadget you can specify behind the name of the external program with
what arguments it is executed.

- A 1st "%s" stands for the selected DMS-archive.
- A 2nd "%s" stands for the selected text-file.
- A 3rd "%s" stands for the selected File_id.diz-file.

Some
                examples
                 for it.

Name:
In this gadget you can state the name that the "usergadget" should have.
This name can´t be longer than eight chars. It is showed in the gadget
immediately after closing the prefswindow, CENTERED it is however first
after starting HandyDMS again or loading the prefs. Therefor it may come
to ugly "overlappings". That´ll be fixed in the next version!

Write Output:
Here you can specify the attributes of the window, which is opened for the
operation WRITE.

Read Output:
Here you can specify the attributes of the window, which is opened for the
operation READ.

View Output:
Here you can specify the attributes of the window, which is opened for the
operation VIEW.

ViewDiz Output:
Here you can specify the attributes of the window, which is opened for the
operation VIEWDIZ.

Test Output:
Here you can specify the attributes of the window, which is opened for the
operation TEST.

Repack Output:
Here you can specify the attributes of the window, which is opened for the
operation REPACK.

Append Output:
Here you can specify the attributes of the window, which is opened for the
operation APPEND.

Banner Output:
Here you can specify the attributes of the window, which is opened for the
operation BANNER.

MakeSFX Output:
Here you can specify the attributes of the window, which is opened for the
operation MakeSFX.

Extern Output:
Here you can specify the attributes of the window, which is opened for the
operation of the usergadget.

If you don´t know how to describe attributes of a window, refer to the manual(s)
of your AMIGA! If you just don´t want the windows to stay opened after a dms-
operation is finished, simply remove the word "WAIT" from the "output-gadgets".

1.12   Usage...

Examples for using the usergadget:

The easiest thing is to use a tool with the usergadget, that only needs the
name of the DMS-archive, e.g. the archive-checker "Mapus". Just choose the
program with the file-requester (or without) and add " %s" to the File-name.
A press on the usergadget now always starts the selected program with the
DMS-archiv as argument.

It is a BIT harder if you need the arguments in an other order than 1. DMS-
archive, 2. Text-file and 3. DIZ-file. Simply write a small script, which
looks like this:

.key dmsfile,txtfile,dizfile

(Your tool/command) ("<dmsfile>", "<txtfile>" or "<dizfile>")

Save your script and set its "S"-flag. Edit in the Syntax-gadget:
"(Scriptname) %s %s %s"

To show the selected DIZ-file with the command "Type" by pressing
the usergadget, the script would look like this:

.key dmsfile,txtfile,dizfile

```
C:Type <dizfile>
----------------------------
```

1.13 Gadget-description...

To/from this drive is written/readed.

1.14 Gadget-description...

If checked, DMS only packs the blocks/tracks, that are marked as ´used´
by Amiga-Dos.

1.15 Gadget-description...

If checked, DMS saves the dizcription of the archive (if exists) to the selected
DIZ-file.

1.16 Gadget-description...

If checked, DMS shows information about every track of an archive.

1.17 Gadget-description...

If checked, disks are written/readed with PC-format.

1.18 Gadget-description...

If checked, disks are written/readed with HighDensity-format.

1.19 Gadget-description...

```
NONE  : no compression
HEAVY1: good compression
HEAVY2: excellent compression
BEST  : DMS chooses the best packmode for the available memory
```

1.20 Gadget-description...

To this tracks is depacked/From this tracks is packed.

1.21   Gadget-description...

If checked, Amiga-Dos validates all disk having to do with DMS.

1.22   Gadget-description...

If checked, every written track is tested for errors.

1.23   Copyrights...

```
                HandyDMS is © 1994,95 by Martin Lindhorst
 HandyDMS is not Public Domain, it´s
                SHAREWARE
                !
 All rights reserved!

 Reqtools.library, which is used for the marvellous file- and info-requesters
 is © 1994 by Nico François.

 DMS is © 1988-91 SDS Software
 DMS und DMSWB are © 1993-94 ParCon Software
```

1.24   Systemrequirements for HandyDMS...

```
                HandyDMS needs:

- at least Kick 2.04 (EVERYBODY SHOULD HAVE THAT NOW!)

-

                Reqtools V38
                 (included in the archive)

- the DMS-executable, DMS V2.04+ would be the best


HandyDMS was programmed (100% assembler) on an A1200 030/MMU and succesfully ←
   tested,
it should run on any Kick 2.04+ AMIGA!
```

1.25   History of the program/future...

```
                Existing versions of HandyDMS:

 Version 1.0 (10.08.94): 1st release! (for DMS V2.04)
 Version 1.1 (17.08.94):
                V1.0 -> V1.1
                  Version 1.2 (25.01.95):
```

```
                        V1.1 -> V1.2
                         Version 1.3 (13.02.95):
                        V1.2 -> V1.3
                         Ideas for future versions:
```

- Keyfile-support
- Fontsensitivity etc. (MUI?) (next "major" release)

```
 Ideas for future versions of HandyDMS and bug-reports are very welcome
                 (Author)
                   !
 IDEAS FROM REGISTERED USERS OF COURSE HAVE A MUCH HIGHER PRIORITY! ;)
```

1.26 The program´s history...

```
 Changes from V1.0 to V1.1:
```

```
ADDED:     - As announced, PC- and HD-disks are now supported.
     - The function "MakeSFX" for creating selfextracting archives
       is now supported.
     - An new gadget, which enables the user to use his "favourite DMS-
       tool" with HandyDMS. THIS GADGET IS FREELY CONFIGURABLE, from
       the gadget-name up to the arguments, which are given to the extern
       tool! Thru this feature you can easily bind an external archive-
       tester (for example) in HandyDMS!
     - For both MakeSFX and the extern program you can (of course)
       specify the output-windows.
     - HandyDMS now informs the user, if saving of prefs failed.
BUG REMOVED:  - After a failed try to open the prefs, the default-values were
       not correctly initialised as it was said in the manual. It could for
       example happen, that the gadgets already showed "Track 0 to 79",
       while HandyDMS still used older (internal) values.
       HandyDMS V1.1 does not change the window/gadgets, if loading of
       prefs fails.
REMOVED:  - The DMS-"Retries"-option is no longer supported! I don´t think there
       are people often changing the value of 3 retries (which is normally
       used by dms)! However, If you do, let me know!
CHANGED:  - The several file-names (DMS-,TXT- and DIZ-file) are NOT saved with
       the prefs any longer! Instead HandyDMS V1.1 saves the current
       DIRECTORY, which makes more sense!
     - Message-requesters do not appear CENTERED on the screen any longer.
       Now they appear the way it is defined in the ReqTools-prefs by the user.
     - The built-in-settings were improved (especially for the output-windows).
     - HandyDMS V1.1 doesn´t use the font "Topaz 8" for the pulldown-menus
       any longer, instead it uses the current "screen-font".
```

1.27 The program`s history...

```
 Changes from V1.1 to V1.2:
```

```
BUG REMOVED:  - ENFORCER-HITS REMOVED! Every Gadget-click caused a hit! :-(
       Thanks to Markus Schmall for reporting!
```

```
        - Sometimes a "data-congestion" occured, resulting in delayed
          gadget-action. Corrected.
        - The usergadget´s name always gets properly centred now.
        - File-/Pathnames containing spaces are put in quotation marks now.
CHANGED:  - dozens of minor changes, optimizations; a few own routines
          replaced by OS-functions.
```

1.28   The program`s history...

```
 Changes from V1.2 to V1.3:

ADDED:    - All drives usable with DMS are recognized automatically, both
          Amiga- (DFx, FFx, RAD etc.) and PC-formats (PCx).
          If drives are mounted after the start of HandyDMS you can refresh
          the current drive-list via "Load Prefs".
        - A small mini-tool to convert the prefs into the respective latest
          format.
        - HandyDMS now creates a new task and thus detaches itself from shell.
CHANGED:  - Prefs-format changed; old prefs can't be loaded anymore.
          From V1.3 on the name of the active drive is saved and the drive is
          selected (if existing) at every start of HandyDMS.
```

1.29   Author

```
 My, myself and I:

 REGISTRATIONS, bug-reports or ideas to:

 Martin Lindhorst
 Rambergstr. 41
 30161 Hannover
 Germany
```

1.30   Thanks...

```
 BIG thanks and greets go to:

 Anton Koch (Betatester)

 Arne Schwettmann (Betatester)

 Vasco Steinmetz (for the help with my small problems)

 Markus Schmall (also for help)

 Blackhawk/Paradox (for the improved DMS!)

 Commodore(?) (for the best computers around!)

 DE LA SOUL (for the GREAT music!)
```

```
...and of course to all registered users!
```