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The only turbo copier for the TI-99/4(a) that operates with the Myarc, CorComp and Texas Instruments disk controllers. Rapid Copy requires 32K memory expansion, disk drive system consisting of at least one floppy disk drive, and either the Extended Basic, Editor/Assembler, or TI-Writer command module.

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INTRODUCTION

Many TI-99/4(a) owners have complained that the disk management software which was included with their disk drive controller did not duplicate or format their diskettes in a reasonable amount of time. With Rapid Copy, a menu driven utility, owners of the Myarc, CorComp, and Texas Instruments disk drive controllers can now quickly duplicate and format their diskettes.

Three different versions of Rapid Copy have been included on the program diskette and were designed to maximize the performance of each disk drive controller. Although each version of the program is set up to operate in a similar fashion, some differences do exist and will be referred to by a special notation.

LOADING PROCEDURE

Extended Basic: Insert Extended Basic module and press any key to display the master selection list. Select the option for Extended Basic. A small loader program will automatically load and execute the appropriate version of Rapid Copy depending on which disk drive controller you are using.

Editor/Assembler: Insert Editor/Assembler module and press any key to display the master selection list. Select the option for Editor/Assembler. When you see the Editor/Assembler title screen, select option 5 for RUN PROGRAM FILE. At the prompt type and enter either DSK1.RAPIDM (Myarc), DSK1.RAPIDC (CorComp), or DSK1.RAPIDT (TI) depending on which disk drive controller you are using.

TI-Writer: Insert TI-Writer module and press any key to display the master selection list. Select the option for TI-Writer. When you see the TI-Writer title screen, select option 3 for UTILITY. At the prompt type and enter either DSK1.RAPIDM (Myarc), DSK1.RAPIDC (CorComp), or DSK1.RAPIDT (TI) depending on which disk drive controller you are using.

FUNCTIONS

Throughout the operation of Rapid Copy you will be guided by a series of easy to follow prompts, and may press BACK (Fctn 9) to return to the main menu at any time.

Rapid Copy

Using Rapid Copy you can make exact duplicates of your diskettes quickly and efficiently. Not only does this option back-up your diskettes, it will also automatically format the target disk using the same format and interlace as the source disk. The type (single or double-sided), density (single, double 16 sector/track, or double 18 sector/track), and interlace will be transferred to the target disk.

When you choose to do a Rapid Copy you will be prompted to enter both a source and target disk drive number. This will determine which disk drive will contain the disk to be copied (source) and which disk drive will contain the disk to be copied to (target). Make sure the disk drives you select contain the proper diskettes before you begin the copy process.

As each track on each diskette is initialized, read, and written the status of both the source and target diskette will be shown on the display screen.

If the source and target disk drives you have selected are the same, you will have to follow a series of guided instructions for swapping both the source and target diskettes during operation.

Warning: All data that may have been previously stored on the target diskette will be permanently erased.

Note: When using the TI version you will have the option to format or not to format the target diskette.

Format Diskette

Using this option you can prepare a new diskette for use on your computer system quickly and efficiently. Before the formatting process you will have to complete a small set of questions that will determine the diskette name, type, density, and interlace.

When prompted for the source drive enter a valid disk drive number which will contain the diskette to be formatted. When asked for a diskname enter any legal name up to ten characters in length. Since the TI disk manager will not display lower case letters it is recommended that only upper case letters be used. Next the prompt SIDES (S/D) appears. Your answer highly depends upon the type of disk drive you have. Press 'S' for single-sided or 'D' for double-sided.

The density that you may format your diskette in depends on the version of the program you are using. If you are using the TI version you can only format in single-density. If you are using either the Myarc or CorComp version you may format in both single and double-density. The Myarc version will allow both 16 sector/track and 18 sector/track double-density formats.

On all three versions of the program you will have the opportunity to enter an interlace. A default interlace has been provided and it is recommended that you use this when formatting your diskettes.

The interlace determines the order of sectors on each track and the distance between each sector. If you were to view each track as a large circle divided into arcs, one for each sector, the interlace would determine the distance between each arc. The smaller, or tighter, the interlace the closer the sectors are to each other and the faster they can be read off the disk. Although the default interlace recommended reads and writes reliably at the fastest rate possible, a smaller interlace may work faster and as reliably depending on your disk drive system.

Verification is ON/OFF

Verification may be enabled or disabled at any time prior to formatting and/or copying a diskette. When the program is first executed verification is set to OFF. The verification status will change each time you toggle it when option <3> is pressed, and will always be displayed on the main menu.

When verification is set to OFF diskettes can be formatted or copied at a slightly faster rate, however if any errors occur during the process they will be ignored. If an error occurs when verification is set to ON the program will ask if it is to continue or abort its function rather than terminate immediately.

Catalog Drive

Any valid disk drive, or RAM drive, may be cataloged using this option. At the WHICH DRIVE? prompt enter any valid disk drive device number to catalog. When the catalog is being produced, pressing any key will pause the display, any other key will resume it.

Both the TI and CorComp versions of the program will catalog any device (1-5) using a standard catalog routine. The Myarc version utilizes the CALL DIR routines located within the disk controller ROM and cannot catalog any RAM drive devices. Unfortunately the New Horizon's RAM disk cannot be accessed using a standard catalog routine and thus cannot be cataloged using this option.

Load Myarc/CorComp Manager

Both the Myarc and CorComp versions of the program have the ability to load and run their respective disk management programs supplied with the disk controller.

The Myarc version will prompt you to enter the number of the disk drive your disk manager resides on. Enter any valid disk drive device number, including RAM drives, (1-5).

The CorComp version will perform the equivalent of the CALL MGR command (as if it were executed from Basic or Extended Basic) If the CorComp disk manager is not found after searching each drive, the computer will be reset to the main title screen.

Exit Program

Pressing 'E' twice will exit the program and the computer will be reset to the main title screen.

Useful Information

Rapid Copy's primary functions were designed to be used with a physical disk system, not RAM drives. When any version of the program is executed, disk drive emulation for the Myarc 128, 256 or 512K memory expansion cards is set to five (5). If you own any other peripheral capable of emulating a floppy disk drive DO NOT attempt to access it using the Rapid Copy or Format Diskette functions. If any attempt to address a RAM drive with these functions is made, it is possible the data stored on the device may be altered or completely erased.

Please keep in mind that each version of the Rapid Copy program only works with its respective disk controller. If you attempt to use a version of Rapid Copy that was not specifically designed for your disk controller it will not function properly.

Each version of the program actually has two different files, one compatible with Extended Basic and the other with both Editor/Assembler and TI-Writer. The following is a breakdown of each version's filenames with reference to its compatibility.

Myarc disk controller: LOADM (XB), RAPIDM (E/A, TI-Writer).
CorComp disk controller: LOADC (XB), RAPIDC (E/A, TI-Writer).
TI disk controller: LOADT (XB), RAPIDT (E/A, TI-Writer).

LIMITED WARRANTY

Warranty Coverage: This warranty covers only the case components of the software package. The case components include only the data diskettes included with the software package. This limited warranty does not extend to the programs contained in the software media and in the accompanying book materials.

Warranty Duration: The components are warranted for a period of 90 days from the date of original purchase. All warranty claims must include a valid sales receipt.

Warranty Disclaimers: Any implied warranty of merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose are limited to the above 90 day duration. Textaments shall not be liable for loss of use of the product or other incidental or consequential costs, expenses, or damages incurred by the consumer or any other user.

Performance By Textaments Under Warranty: During the 90 day period, defective components will be replaced when returned postage prepaid to Textaments. The replacement components will be warranted for a period of 90 days from the date of replacement.

After the warranty period expires, all replacements will require a fee of \$5.00 to accompany your original diskette.

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If you have any questions or comments regarding this and other products from Textaments please feel free to write to the address above or call (516)475-3480. Please note: this telephone number is not a toll free number and collect calls cannot be accepted.

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