

## Micro Peripherals QL Disk Interface DIP Switches

The manual for the Micro Peripherals disk interface on my website shows a set of four DIP-switches to set some options for the interface. Some versions of the interface have a set of five jumpers instead of these switches – here's the instructions for these. Thanks to Christopher Henry Perkins for this information.

### Jumper Selection on the Interface

Whether you use the Micro Peripherals recommended drives or ones of your own choice, you will need to check the position of the disk option jumpers on the Interface card.

There will be five of these jumpers which are 10 pins organised into five pairs sticking up from the board and labelled JP1...JP5.

The function of these jumpers is as follows:

#### JP1

This jumper is not used for normal operation

#### JP2

This jumper determines whether the disk is formatted as single sided or double sided.

To format disks as double sided JP2 is left unconnected. In order to format disks as single sided JP2 must be connected.

Naturally a disk formatted as single sided can be used in a double sided drive. However any attempt to access a disk formatted as double sided on a single sided drive will result in undefined errors. Mixing single and double sided drives within a system is not recommended.

#### JP3

This jumper selects the track to track step time used for the disk drives.

With JP3 connected the step time is set for 6ms.

With JP3 disconnected the step time is set for 3ms.

This jumper must be set to conform with your disk drive specification ( eg for use with Micro Peripherals disk drives this jumper is not connected ).

#### JP4

This jumper determines the name given to the floppy disk device when the QL is switched on or reset

The consequences of having JP4 connected are as follows:

1) Until otherwise directed the disk drives will emulate Microdrives and are labelled MDV

2) Software written for use with Microdrives will now access disk instead.

3) On power up or reset, the QL will load and run a program called "boot" if it is present on Drive 1.

4) Unless overwritten by software (see Chapter 3) Microdrives cannot be used.

5) Less memory is used by the device drivers.

If JP4 is not connected then your Disk Drives will be referred to as "FDK" and you will also have the use of Microdrives as normal.

JP1 and JP5 are not used for normal operation.

Here's a photo of the jumper locations on the board.

