

# The FDI Directory Device Driver

This version 1, of the FDI device driver is for use with standard QDOS floppy disk image files. The driver uses the image file as if it was a real floppy disk. So you can use all the usual disk commands, SAVE, LOAD, DIR etc.

It is based on the Public Domain FLP driver by Tony Tebby, as used in the QDOS4Amiga emulator.

It also uses some routines from the SMSQ/E (version 3.16) source code by Tony Tebby (see licence notice at the end of this document)

Version 1 of the FDI driver is limited to Single and Double Density (360K & 720K) disk images. And has no support for level 2 sub directories.

For High, and Extra Density disk image support, with level 3 directory support see the FDI version 2 device driver.

## Installing the Driver

Two versions of the driver is supplied. A RAM based one, and a 16K byte ROM image.

To load the RAM based version of the driver, load the driver into memory and call it.

example: i. **LRESPR flp1\_FDI1driver\_cde**  
ii. **x=RESPR(6114)** {if you don't have Toolkit 2, or equivalent}  
**LBYTES flp1\_FDI1driver\_cde,x**  
**CALL x**

An installation message, and a version number will be displayed in #0

To load the ROM based version, see the user instructions of your emulator. For example in QPC2 use the command:

**EPROM\_LOAD flp1\_FDI1driver\_rom**

## Using the Driver

Before the FDI device driver can use an image file, It must first be mounted, onto one of the eight available drive slots. See the **MOUNT\_FDI** and **UNMOUNT\_FDI** commands for associating and releasing image files with drive numbers.

To create new, blank formatted FDI image files. See the **MAKE\_FDI** command.

To convert actual floppy disks into FDI images, see the ReadMe document supplied with the device driver.

## Formatting FDI devices

When the **FORMAT** command is used on an image file. It will format the image to it's Total sectors value, typically 720, or 1440 sectors.

If a Format fails, the image file is unmounted, as it's condition is unknown, and it would not be safe to continue to use it.



## **MOUNT\_FDI**

### **FMOUNT\_FDI**

The **MOUNT\_FDI** command is used to associate a floppy disk image file to one of the eight available drive slots. The optional protect status parameter determines whether or not, the image file will be write protected. The default being 0, for not write protected.

**FMOUNT\_FDI** is a function version of **MOUNT\_FDI** that returns 0, or an error code, without stopping the running program.

syntax:     *fdi\_no := numeric\_expression*                     {1 to 8}  
              *protect := numeric\_expression*                   {0 or 1, default 0}

**MOUNT\_FDI** *fdi\_no, filename [,protect]*  
**FMOUNT\_FDI**(*fdi\_no, filename [,protect]*)

example: i. **MOUNT\_FDI** 1,win2\_Quill\_img  
          ii. **MOUNT\_FDI** 3,win1\_Games\_img,1             {image is write protected}  
          iii. **result=FMOUNT\_FDI**(4,dos1\_Xchange\_img)

comment: Once an image file has been mounted, it appears to the system to be an ordinary directory device. So you can LOAD, SAVE, DELETE etc.

## **UNMOUNT\_FDI**

### **FUNMOUNT\_FDI**

The **UNMOUNT\_FDI** command is used to disassociate a floppy disk image file with its drive slot.

It is equivalent to removing a floppy disk from it's drive.

**FUNMOUNT\_FDI** is a function version of **UNMOUNT\_FDI** that returns 0, or an error code, without stopping the running program.

When an image file is unmounted, The FDI driver will attempt to tidy up behind itself by closing any open channels on the FDI device, and removing the drives Physical Definition Block from memory. It will not close any programs that have open channels to the device, but if the program attempts to access the device, an 'invalid channel ID' error may occur.

syntax:     *fdi\_no := numeric\_expression*                     {0 to 8}

**UNMOUNT\_FDI** *fdi\_no*  
**FUNMOUNT\_FDI**(*fdi\_no*)

example: i. **UNMOUNT\_FDI** 3                             {dismounts the image file connected to slot 3}  
          ii. **result=FUNMOUNT\_FDI**(1)

comment: In the special case of **UNMOUNT\_FDI** 0, all mounted image files will be dismounted.

## **FDI\_USE**

**FDI\_USE** allows renaming of the FDI device. **FDI\_USE** without a parameter will reset the name of FDI back to FDI.

syntax:     **FDI\_USE** [*name*]

example: i. **FDI\_USE** mdv : **LOAD** mdv1\_prog             {loads 'prog' from FDI1\_}  
          ii. **FDI\_USE**                                 {the driver now uses FDI again}  
          iii. **MOUNT\_FDI** 1,win2\_Quill\_img  
               **FDI\_USE** mdv  
               **LOAD** mdv1\_boot                         {the Quill Image file acts as if it was in mdv1\_}

## FDI\_FILE\$

The **FDI\_FILE\$** function returns a string containing the filename of a mounted image file. If no image file is mounted, **FDI\_FILE\$** will return an empty string.

syntax: *fdi\_no := numeric\_expression* {1 to 8}

**FDI\_FILE\$** *fdi\_no*

example: **PRINT FDI\_FILE\$ (1)** {print the name of the image file of FDI1\_}

## MAKE\_FDI FMAKE\_FDI

The **MAKE\_FDI** command will create a blank formatted disk image file.

The density parameter defines the size of the disk image to be created.

**s** - Single density, 360K, 720 sectors

**d** - Double density, 720K, 1440 sectors

**FMAKE\_FDI** is a function version of **MAKE\_FDI** that returns 0, or an error code, without stopping the running program.

syntax: *medium\_name := name | string\_expression* {maximum of 10 characters}  
*density := name | string\_expression* {**s** | **d** | **h** | **e**}

**MAKE\_FDI** *filename, medium\_name, density*

**FMAKE\_FDI**(*filename, medium\_name, density*)

example: i. **MAKE\_FDI win2\_myfiles\_img,Games,d**  
{creates an image file named 'myfiles\_img' on flp2\_, With a medium name of 'Games', and 1440 Sectors}

ii. **MAKE\_FDI win1\_Work1\_img,Data,s**  
{creates an image file named 'Work1\_img' on flp1\_, With a medium name of 'Data', and 720 Sectors}

iii. **result=FMAKE\_FDI("dos1\_Games.img",Vol1,d)**

comment: This command will only create an Image file, it does not mount it.

Although not supported by the version 1 FDI driver, The **MAKE\_FDI** command will also create High, and Extra density disk image files by using the density parameters of **h**, and **e**.

## Copyright and Disclaimer

This driver should not cause any problems, damage, or loss of data. However by using this device driver, you do so at your own risk, and I do not accept responsibility for any damage, or loss of data. You should always only work on copies of important disk images.

The driver also contains portions of the SMSQ/E source code

### Licence for SMSQ/E

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Tony Tebby  
Marcel Kilgus  
Bruno Coativy  
Fabrizio Diversi  
Phoebus Dokos  
Thierry Godefroy  
Jérôme Grimbert  
George Gwilt  
John Hall  
Mark Swift  
Per Witte  
Wolfgang Lenerz

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