THE A500 MINI

Why get an Amiga 500 Mini?
The Benefits And Alternatives
If you have yet to make a decision,
check out the options available and
our price comparison

THE **A500** MINI

RETRO GAMES

A500

USK 12

12 www.pegi.info

25 AMIGA GAMES / JEUX AMIGA

AC adapter NOT included
Adaptateur secteur non inclus

New to the Amiga?
If you are completely new to the Amiga, it was a highly popular series of computers for games. There were around 5 million Amiga computers sold over 30 years ago and it had around 5,000 commercial games. The Amiga 500 Mini emulates some of the Amiga series (not just the Amiga 500 but also the more advanced Amiga 1200) and comes with 25 games and controllers so you can quickly start playing.

Alternative 1: Other Emulators
There are alternatives. The chip inside the Amiga 500 Mini is the All Winner H6 chip which is also found in a Raspberry Pi 3 and runs Amiberry software to emulate an Amiga. The Raspberry Pi is very popular for retro gaming and Pimiga is a project to provide a great way to emulate an Amiga however it is optimized for a Raspberry Pi 400 which, at the time of writing, is hard to get and is not far off the price of an Amiga Mini. It does not come with licensed Amiga software and as it is not Amiga themed, you don't get an Amiga tank mouse or Amiga CD32 styled joypad.

Alternative 2: A Real Amiga
To skip emulation altogether, you could the real thing – an Amiga 500! However these require floppy disks or a gotek floppy drive emulator to run software. A better alternative would be to use an Amiga 1200 (which the Amiga 500 Mini can emulate) with a card reader adapter to act as a hard drive. However to run games using a popular software loader, whdload, you would really need an 8mb memory expansion. If HDMI output is required, another adapter would be needed. You would also want an Amiga 1200 to be "recapped" to avoid faults. The total outlay for this setup (even with the computer being second hand and around 30 years old) could easily be around 3 times the price of an Amiga 500 Mini.

Benefits of an Amiga Mini
Unlike with a Raspberry Pi, you won't have to worry about getting ROM files - the Amiga Mini is fully legal and licensed with all the files you need. It is easy to purchase and easy to get up and running playing great in-built games very quickly on modern televisions. The small footprint makes it very cute and it has gathered a keen group of hackers and enthusiasts. According to the manufacturer, Retro Remakes, the A500 Mini is the fastest selling home computer remake. In our opinion, avoid the hassle of the alternaives and just have some fun on a very portable mini.

Disadvantages of an Amiga Mini
The keyboard is cosmetic and does not work (only a virtual keyboard built in to the software). As with many emulated systems, there can be issues with some games.

What's in the box
What You Get With Your Amiga 500 Mini
The leads, the controllers, game scores
and links to game instructions

In the box
You get :
• The Amiga 500 Mini
• Mouse
• Gamepad
• Power lead
• HDMI cable
• Manual
You do not get :
• A plug
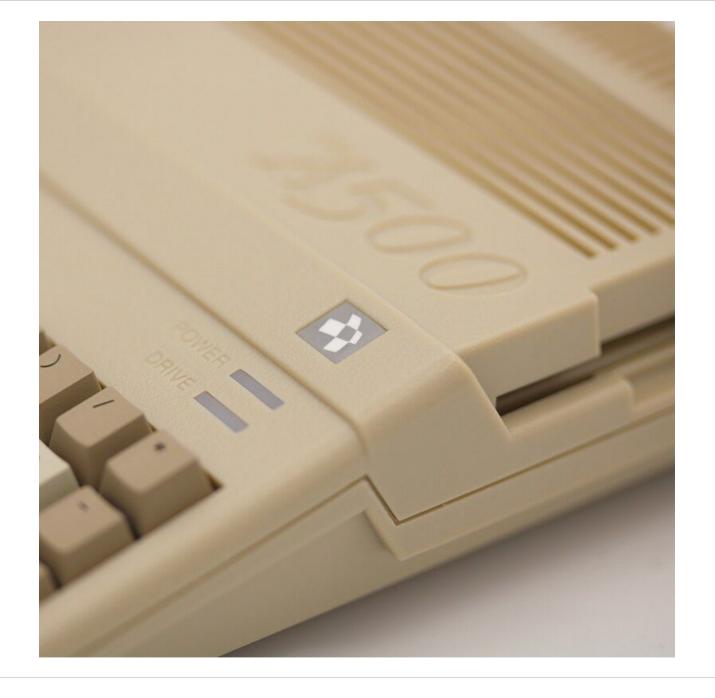• A working keyboard (there is a virtual keyboard in software)

Amiga 500 Mini in-built games

The mini has an in-built dashboard with 25 top games ready to play. According to one internet source, Lemon Amiga, the worst rated games included are Zool and Titus the Fox with the best games being Simon the Sorcerer and Speedball 2 though no game gets below a rating of 6.
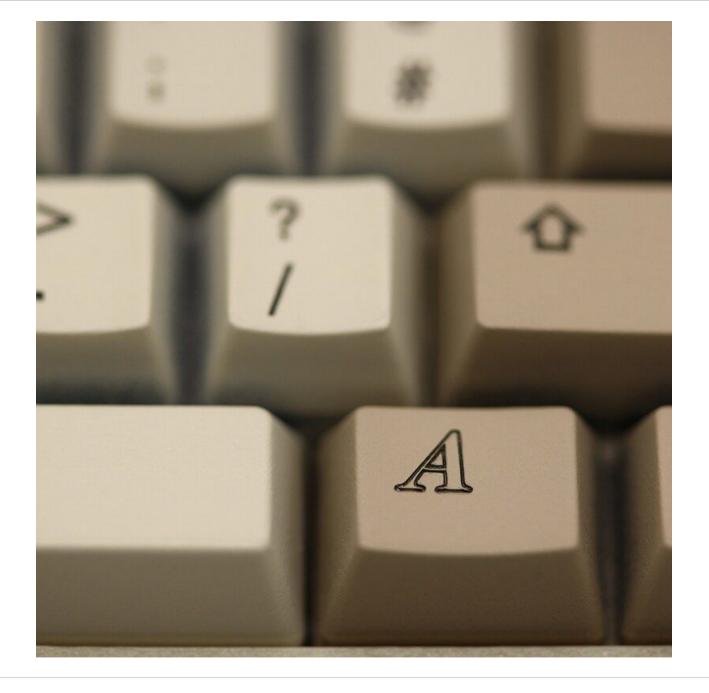
If you are not sure which games to try, you can always sort by score or visit some of the links for more info.

25 Classic Games Included:

Alien Breed 3D • Alien Breed: Special Edition 92 • Another World • Arcade Pool • ATR: All Terrain Racing • Battle Chess • Cadaver • California Games • Dragon's Breath • F-16 Combat Pilot • Kick Off 2 • Paradroid 90 • Pinball Dreams • Project-X: Special Edition 93 • Qwak • Simon the Sorcerer • Speedball 2: Brutal Deluxe • Stunt Car Racer • Super Cars II • The Chaos Engine • The Lost Patrol • The Sentinel • Titus the Fox • Worms: The Director's Cut • Zool: Ninja Of The "Nth" Dimension

Better setup options
Sound, Gamepads, Keyboards
And HDMI Options
How best to power your Amiga
Mini and better expansions

AC Adapter not included!?!

Don't panic!

There is a USB lead (USB C on the Amiga Mini to USB A) that can be inserted into a USB socket or a plug such as those included with mobile phones. If you are connecting to a modern TV, there is a good chance your TV will have a well powered USB port on the back which is a great opportunity to power the Amiga Mini. PC Monitors sometimes have USB hubs that could be used for power.

Sound

The Amiga sounds great.

If you want to use it with a computer monitor that doesn't have speakers rather than a television, unfortunately the Amiga Mini does not have a headphone or audio out socket.

HDMI Audio splitter

However you can get a splitter to get the audio from the HDMI output.

Gaming monitor without speakers?

Check for a headphone socket. Before getting a splitter, check that your monitor doesn't have a headphone or audio out socket. Many gaming monitors have this feature so you can plug in some headphones or a speaker into your gaming monitor.

Gamepads

Don't like the gamepad? Many users are complaining that the gamepad can be hard to use especially when moving diagonally and you have to press two buttons at the same time. The good news is that many existing gamepads work right away. The first gamepad we tried was a Playstation 3 compatible joypad and it worked a treat. Others are reporting that wired Xbox controllers also work. We'll report back once we have more details.

Powered USB Hub

The Amiga 500 Mini comes with 3 USB 2.0 ports. These tend to be used for 1. the mouse, 2. the gamepad and 3. a USB memory stick.

But what if you want to plug in a keyboard? Or another joy pad?

The simple answer is to use a USB hub.

Most USB hubs are powered by the device they are connected to. A standard, average USB hub would get its power from the Amiga Mini. It is recommended though, to avoid running into issues depending on how you power your Amiga 500 Mini, to use a powered USB hub. These come with their own power supply instead of taking power from the device they are connected to.

Floppy Disk Designs

Just for fun, you can pimp out your Amiga Mini with these 3D Printed miniature floppy disks. It is a very cheap way for some amazing aesthetics

Get more games
How To Download And Play More Games
On Your Amiga Mini?
Adding games is easy. This quick guide will
show you where and how to add them

Get a USB memory stick
You need a USB memory stick to download software and games for your Amiga Mini
The good news is that Amiga games are tiny so even a very small and cheap USB storage drive can store thousands of games.
A cheap generic memory stick is all you need.
What memory stick should you use with an Amiga Mini?
We recommend a USB 2 memory stick up to 32Gb.
You could use a USB 3 device which is faster however the Amiga Mini only has USB 2 ports so the memory stick would only be faster when it is used with another device (such as when initially copying files). As people prefer faster USB 3 drives, USB 2 drives can be very cheap.
You could try to use a 64Gb or higher memory stick but this could be problematic.
To be recognised by the Amiga Mini, a USB memory stick should be formatted to FAT32. This is a common file format and the default format that Windows will choose when formatting a drive up to 32Gb.
If you try to format a drive greater than 32Gb, Windows will choose the exFat file format which cannot be used by the Amiga Mini.
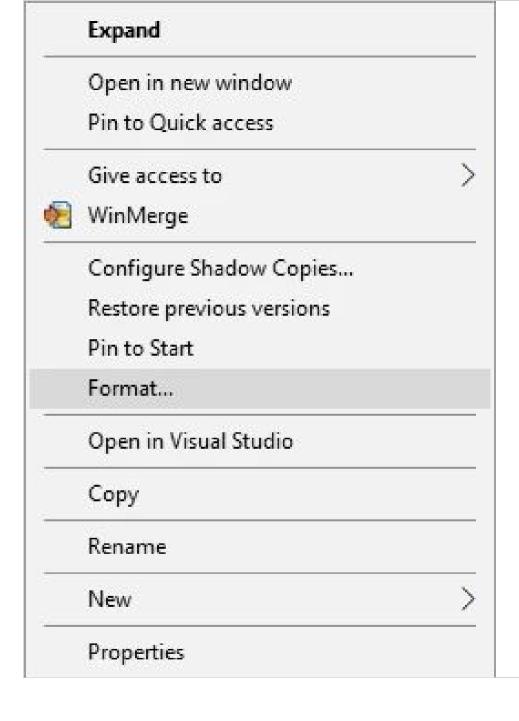So save some money.
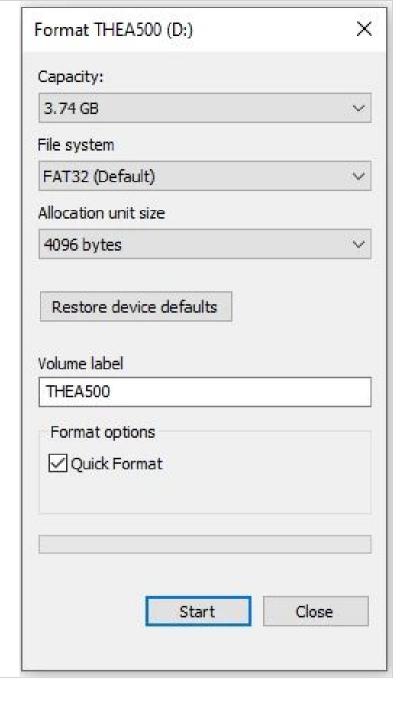We like this inexpensive dual pack of color coded 32Gb drives
ut you can choose whichever you like and low capacity memory drives are very cheap. Even a 2Gb memory stick can hold system software and around 2,000 games.
You can purchase a USB memory stick on ebay full of Amiga games. However many of these listings will not say what size the USB memory stick is. Instead they state the number of games (because this sounds much more impressive). You would also then realise you could be being overcharged for a small cheap memory stick with software that is very easily downloaded.

Format your memory stick
If your memory stick is not already formatted, you can format it in Windows by right clicking on it in Windows Explorer and selecting the format menu:
photo *left*
This will bring up the following dialog. You can enter a name for the drive
photo right

Expand

Open in new window

Pin to Quick access

Give access to   >

WinMerge

Configure Shadow Copies...

Restore previous versions

Pin to Start

Format...

Open in Visual Studio

Copy

Rename

New   >

Properties

Format THEA500 (D:)   ✕

Capacity:

3.74 GB   ⌄

File system

FAT32 (Default)   ⌄

Allocation unit size

4096 bytes   ⌄

Restore device defaults

Volume label

THEA500

Format options

☑ Quick Format

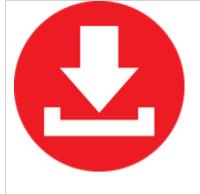Start   Close

Install the software (WHDLoad)
Download WHDLoad files:
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1QRetlON3Sj7ojgWVcTKOH-TXNbbNsEqC/view
Copy the files within this zip file to your memory stick
After installing or updating THEA500 WHDLoad Package on a USB stick, the THEA500 Mini will need to prepare the contents when you next launch a program stored on it. While doing this the *Drive LED* will flash regularly, indicating that you should not remove the stick or power off THEA500 Mini.
Changes introduced in version 1.0.1
- Updates WHDLoad database to the latest
- Fixes occasional black-screen display

PLAY

START

GO!

Download more games!
Create folders on your USB memory drive before you start downloading games. The Amiga Mini can read up to 256 files per folder.
However, if you copy games into a folder, you should allow a save file to be created for each game so only copy 128 games per folder.
Your USB memory stick should now look something like this:
photo 1
We do not host games here however there are many websites that host thousands of games and software. You can download the games individually you want from some of the following websites:
https://whdload.de/download.html
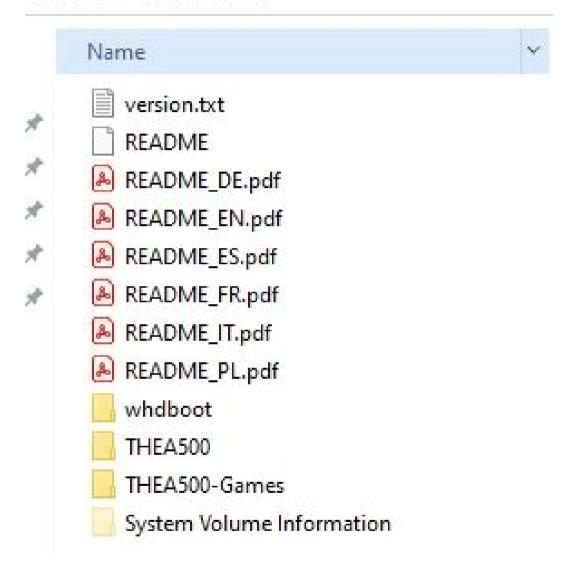https://www.whdownload.com/games.php
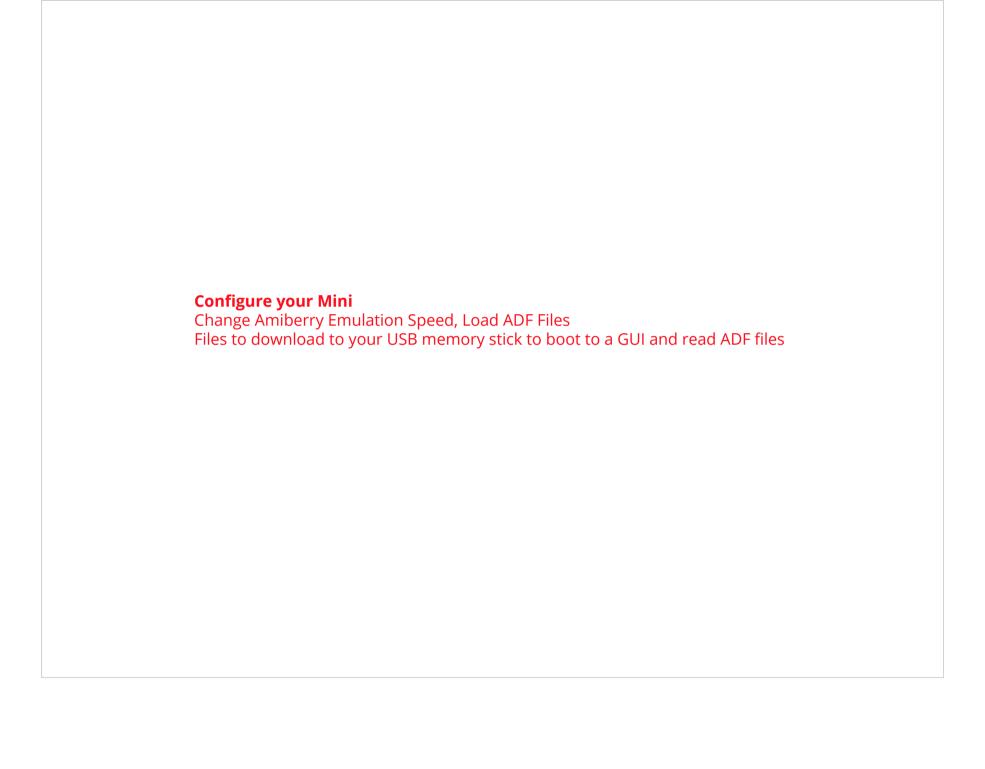https://archive.org/details/super-skidmarks-v-2.2-cd
https://archive.org/details/101-amiga-games-titgi
https://archive.org/details/youtube-CXnYaDKnQeY
https://archive.org/details/Amiga_WHD_Games

Name
version.txt
README
README_DE.pdf
README_EN.pdf
README_ES.pdf
README_FR.pdf
README_IT.pdf
README_PL.pdf
whdboot
THEA500
THEA500-Games
System Volume Information

Configure your Mini
Change Amiberry Emulation Speed, Load ADF Files
Files to download to your USB memory stick to boot to a GUI and read ADF files

Hacking your Amiga 500 Mini to run more software

Being able to read ADF files using your Amiga 500 Mini will open up more options for finding compatible Amiga software (not just games but also productivity software).

An Amiga Mini firmware update can provide ADF support however our guides are for an unupdated Amiga Mini as the firmware update may break other options.

To carry out this hack, you need a USB memory stick to download software and get to the Amiberry configuration screen. For more details on getting and formatting a USB memory stick, check out our Get More Games page.

You will also need a USB keyboard plugged into your Amiga 500 Mini to press a hotkey (F12).
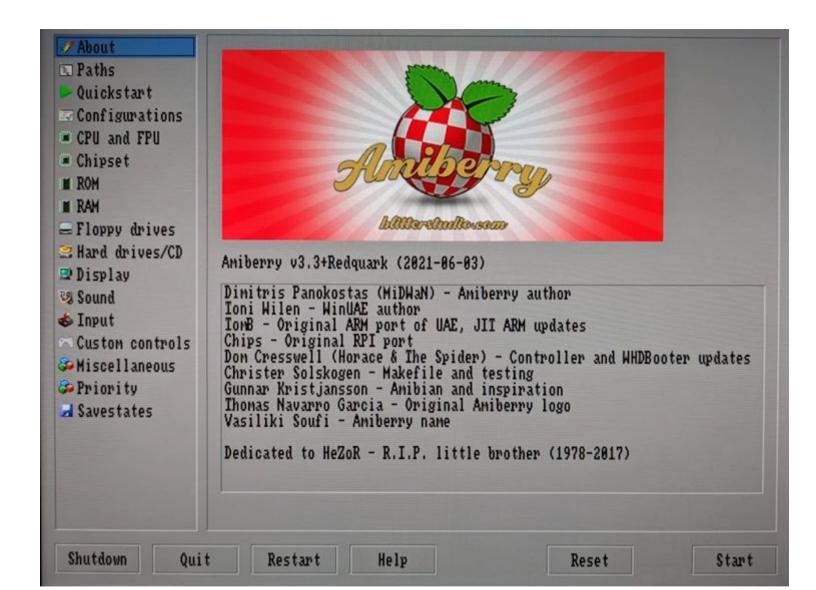
photo1

All credit to RTS:Retro Tech Shed on YouTube for this hack which is fully explained in these 2 videos

A500 Mini with Workbench and Amiberry Unlocked to use ADF and HDF

A500 Mini vs Unofficial "A500 Maxi" running Workbench 3.2 + UAE Templates for A500, A1200 & A4000
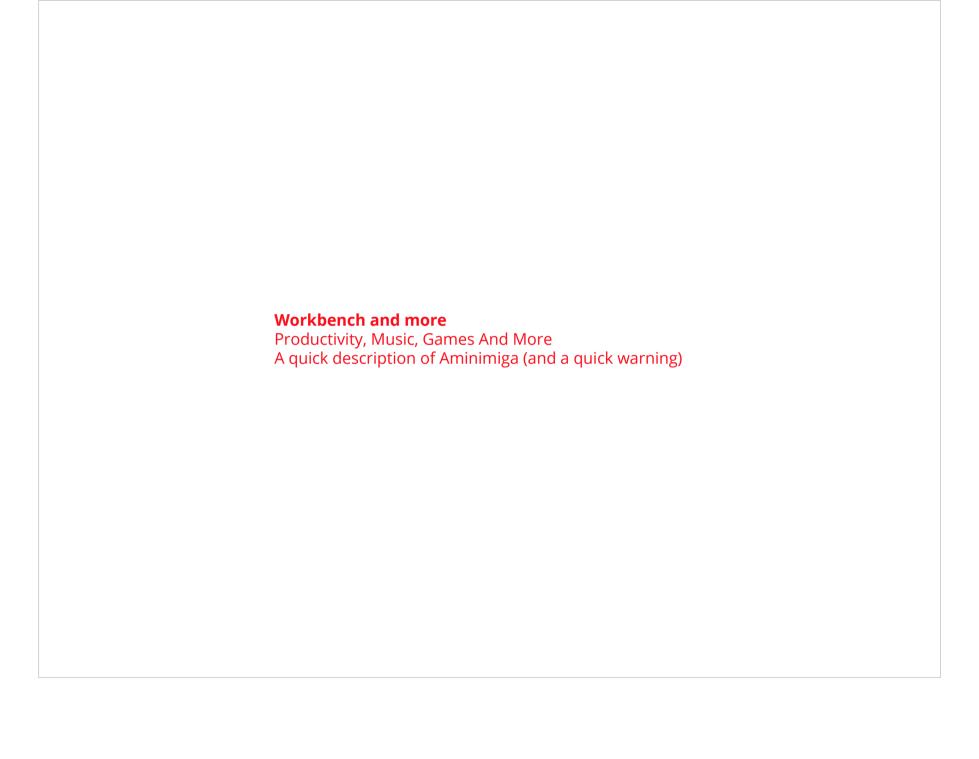
With permission, we're providing the configuration files below for booting as an Amiga 500, Amiga 1200 or Amiga 4000! No ROMs or Workbench files are included, only configuration files, but you don't need ROMs like Kickstart 1.3 or 3.1 since these are already included with your Amiga Mini. These different configurations allow you to run software that might normally run too fast on the Amiga Mini. In the YouTube video, it demonstrates a game that is unplayable unless slowed down using the A500 configuration.

Pressing F12 allows you to go to the Amiberry configuration screen:

Upload files to your USB stick

We have a zip file containing 3 folders (A500, A1200, A4000) with a different configuration file in each.

Download configuration files

After unzipping and copying the files to your USB memory stick, it is recommended that you set these files to read only (right click on the files on your memory stick and choose Properties) to avoid them being altered however you can always download them again.

About
- Paths
- Quickstart
- Configurations
- CPU and FPU
- Chipset
- ROM
- RAM
- Floppy drives
- Hard drives/CD
- Display
- Sound
- Input
- Custom controls
- Miscellaneous
- Priority
- Savestates

Amiberry v3.3+Redquark (2021-06-03)

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Dimitris Panokostas (MiDWaN) - Amiberry author
Ioni Wilen - WinUAE author
TomB - Original ARM port of UAE, JIT ARM updates
Chips - Original RPI port
Dom Cresswell (Horace & The Spider) - Controller and WHDBooter updates
Christer Solskogen - Makefile and testing
Gunnar Kristjansson - Amibian and inspiration
Thomas Navarro Garcia - Original Amiberry logo
Vasiliki Soufi - Amiberry name

Dedicated to HeZoR - R.I.P. little brother (1978-2017)
```

| Shutdown | Quit | Restart | Help | | Reset | Start |

Workbench and more
Productivity, Music, Games And More
A quick description of Aminimiga (and a quick warning)

Workbench on the Amiga 500 Mini

We do not want to host it here but we have become aware of a fully loaded Workbench for the Amiga 500 Mini.

It is, at the time of writing, a zip file just under 2Gb and all you have to do is download the zip file and extract its contents to a USB memory stick. Selecting AMiNIMiga from the USB memory stick will launch workbench with a huge wealth of software.
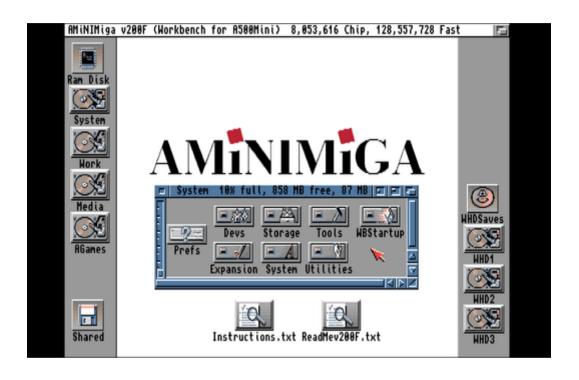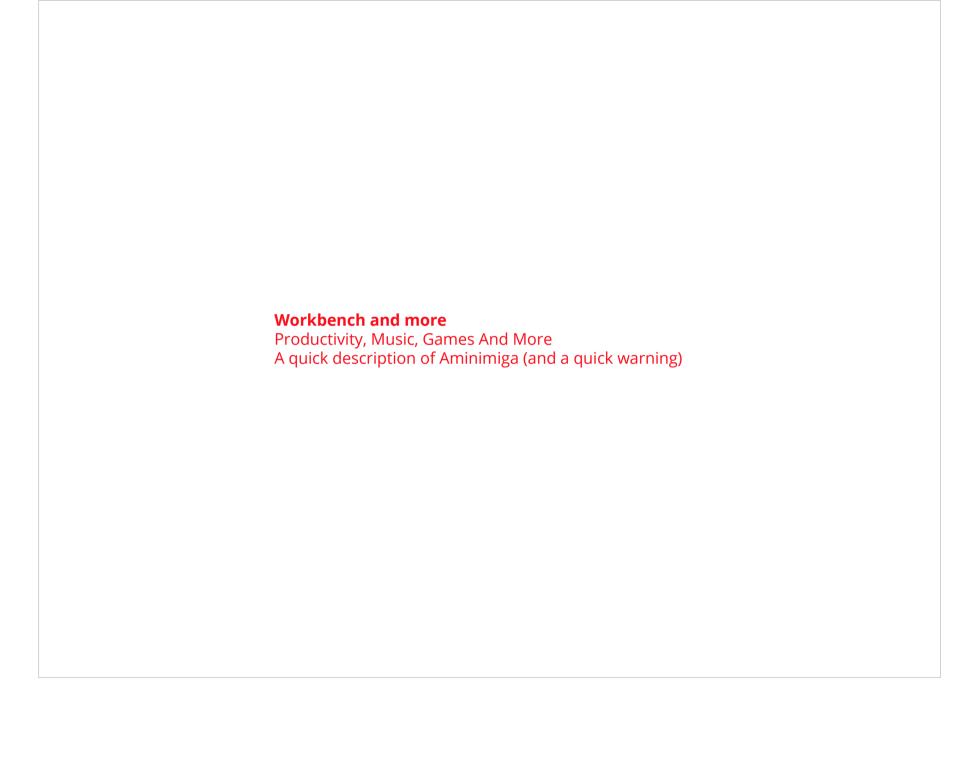
Click here for more info:

https://www.aminimiga.com/

DO NOT PAY FOR AMiNIMiga except via AMiNIMiga.com . The person who put it together has not charged anyone for doing so.

However others have taken this zip file, copied it to a memory stick costing perhaps $/€/£5 and are charging around 10 times that for mostly someone elses effort.

Workbench and more
Productivity, Music, Games And More
A quick description of Aminimiga (and a quick warning)

Amiga game selector and more
Productivity, Music, Games And More
A quick description of Amiga game selector.

Demos - 01 - AGA
Demos - 02 - ECS-OCS
Games - 01 - AGA
Games - 02 - ECS-OCS
Games - 03 - CD32
Games - 04 - CDTV
Games - 05 - Arcadia
Games - 06 - NTSC
Games - 07 - #TSC
Games - 08 - French
Games - 09 - German
Games - 10 - Italian
Games - 11 - Spanish
Games - 12 - Polish
Games - 13 - Beta
Games - 14 - By Year
Games - 15 - By Genre
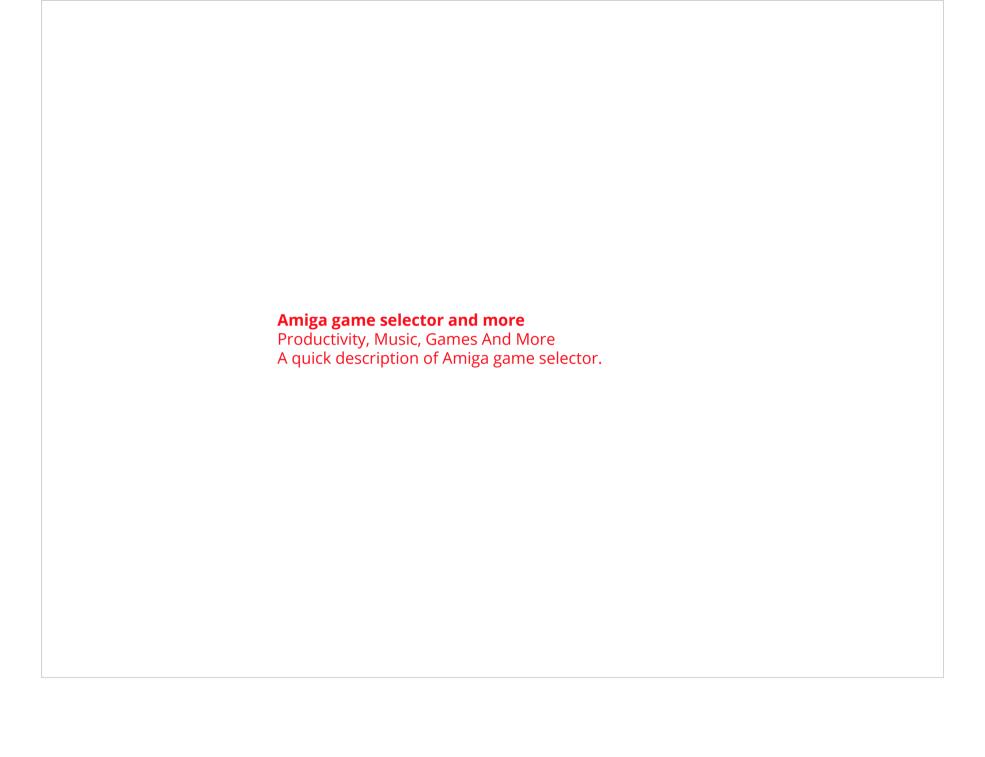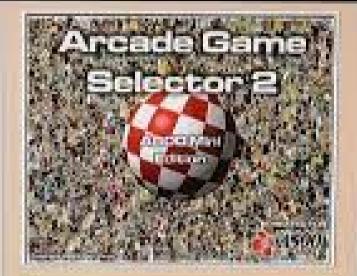
Welcome to the A500 Mini AGS2 Launcher!

In the folders you will find all of the
WHDLoad games and demos in Retroplay's
collection.

Each game has it's cover, screen
shot and title image available, as well
as some info.

For all those A500 mini owners out there, we can confirm that Amiga Game Selector v2.1 has been released!
Created by the legend himself, Paul Vince – AGS is a dedicated Workbench environment that supports the A500 mini, Raspberry Pi and WinUAE. This latest version features over 5000 WHDLoad games, demos and magazines.
This latest update is mainly a "bug fix and tweak of v2.0" which we found to be only of the most feature-rich and complete A500 mini software packages available. Note-worthy improvements include
Over 300 extra games with 20 new ones added. Notable additional game inclusions Nemac IV, Tapper, Galaxian 500., Inherit the Earth, TFX AGA (New Build), Ultraviolent Worlds AGA. Various Workbench tweaks and updates. 70 24-bit Workbench backdrops. A whole host of game errors fixed. There's one new theme for Dave McCormick. Music is now available in the AGS launcher
Download:
https://github.com/MagerValp/ArcadeGameSelector

Amiga Game Selector — Installation Guide

Pandory
Emulate Other Machines. Who says you can't play Doom on an Amiga? Pandory with RetroArch emulates a huge list of machines.

Emulate other systems on your Amiga Mini

Pandory gives you full access to the Amiga 500 Mini allowing you to run native programs.

Pandory may not work if you update the firmware on your Amiga Mini. It should work on a non-updated Amiga Mini

WHAT IS PANDORY?

The Pandory Mod is "sideloaded" firmware for the A500 mini which gives you full access to the machine and allows you to run native programs that enable many new game emulators, such as RetroArch. It comes in the form of a WHDLOAD package and exploits a hidden-feature of the A500 amiberry emulator to run native code. It runs completely from USB stick and is 100% removable.

Download Pandory

This is the official page for Pandory containing

https://github.com/emuchicken/pandory-a500/

Upload files to your USB stick

Your USB memory stick should now look something like this:

photo1

With your USB memory stick in your Amiga Mini, select the Pandory folder and then the Pandory file within to launch Pandory.
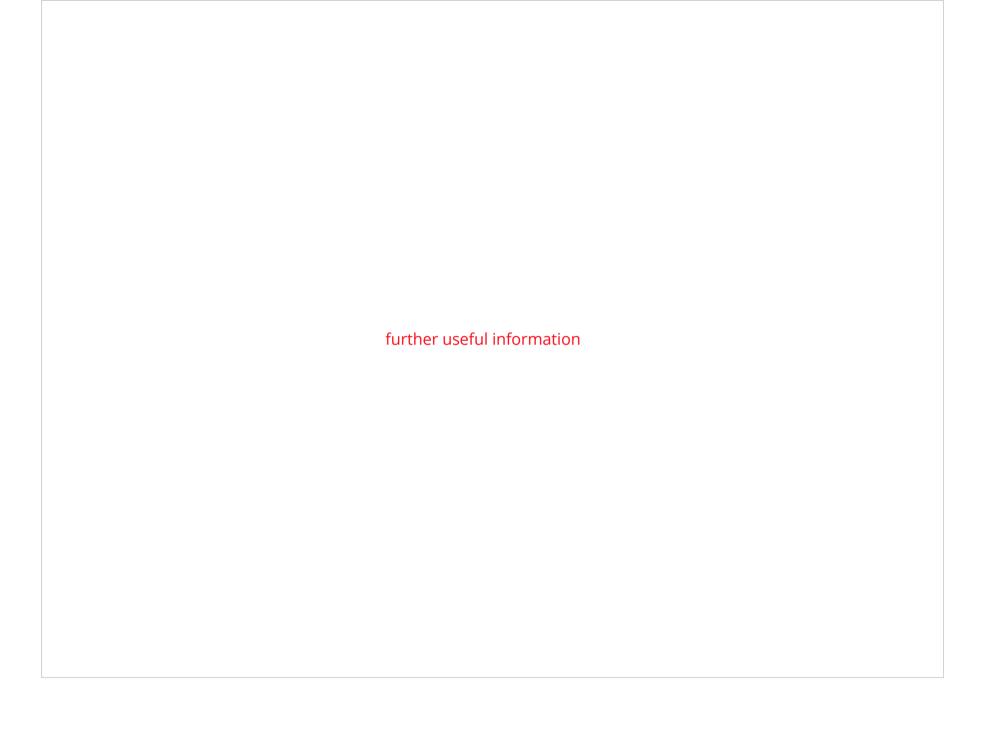
WHAT DOES PANDORY DO?

Pandory enables:

- A new native RetroArch menu, with OpenGL video-driver support, allowing many new emulators alongside Amiga, including:
- Megadrive ,SNES, Playstation 1,32X, Amiga PUAE
- *RetroArch has been configured with ADF and IPF support.*
- Commodore 64,Atari ST, PC-Engine / TurboGrafx, MS-DOS, Game Boy, ...
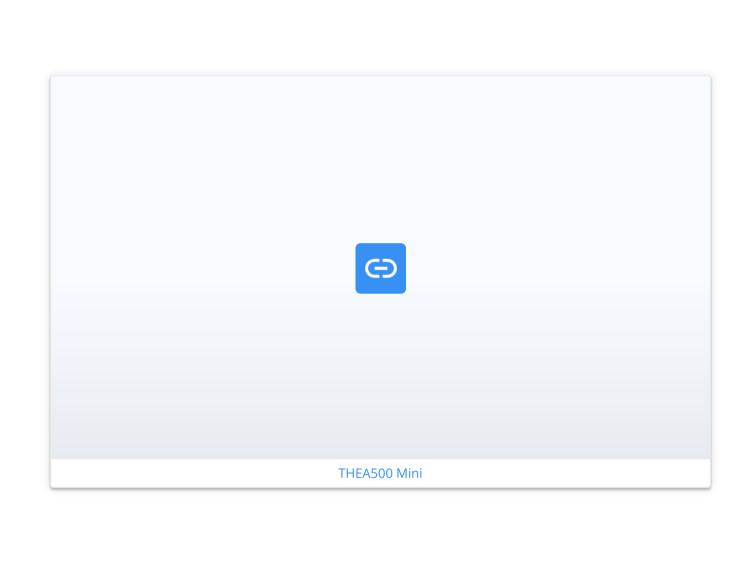
USB Drive (D:)

	Name
	📁 Pandory
	📁 THEA500

further useful information

The A500 Mini - Retro Games Ltd Unboxing and Setup Guide 2023

The A500 Mini is here!

THEA500 Mini

THEA500-Mini-User-Manual-v1.0.0.pdf

[Amiga 500 Mini Unofficial setup and games guide](#)

THE A500

THE C64

RETRO GAMES

THE VIC 20

THE JOYSTICK
THE MOUSE
THE GAMEPAD