SuperBoot

Copyright © 1989, 2022

Carl J. England

The owner of this copyright grants unlimited use to anyone using a “real” or emulated Tandy Color Computer. Copies of this distribution package may be shared only as long as all materials contained in this package remain intact.

Modified versions of SuperBoot shall not replace the original distribution but may be included in this package. Modified versions should be documented to include what changes have been made to the original and should include the modifying author’s name.

What SuperBoot is:

SuperBoot is an enhancement for the Disk Extended Color BASIC on a Tandy Color Computer.

Enhancements include the ability to use 35, 36, 40, 41, 42,or 80-track single or double-sided

 Drives.

6, 12, 20 or 30 ms step rate.

Double speed operation with reliable Disk I/O (cOco 3 only)

Plus more.

Because of its extremely small “footprint” it gives maximum compatibility with most existing (and future) software.

SuperBoot has been around since 1989 but would not function with the SDC Floppy Disk Emulator because of memory conflicts. This updated version resolves that issue.

USING SUPERBOOT:

Type DOS.

Your system is immediately customized. If a file matches the Auto Start file, it will LOAD and RUN or LOADM and EXECute. If not, then you will be presented with the directory listing in two columns. Up to 32 files will be displayed on the screen. Use the arrow keys to select a file and press ENTER (or SPACE) to start the selected program. If there are more than 32 files on the disk, additional pages of directory listing are displayed using the SHIFTED UP and SHIFTED DOWN arrow keys.

If you don’t see the file you are searching for, change disks and press BREAK. The directory from the new disk will be displayed. Or you can choose another drive. Pressing 0, 1, 2, or 3 selects that drive. (If using double-sided drives, Drive 2 is the back of Drive 0 and Drive 3 is the back of Drive 1.

If you just want to quit, type Q.

LIMITATIONS:

Not intended for OS-9.

Some programs have their own boot file on track 34 and should not be overwritten.

SuperBoot consumes one granule of storage space on each disk on which it is installed.

Custom colors and double-speed operation are not available on CoCo1 or CoCo2.

Requires a minimum of 64K of RAM on CoCo1 or CoCo2.

80-track disks will have 158 granules available but the number of files that may be stored

 on the disk is limited to 128. Since most files consume multiple granules, it should

 be a rare occurrence for a disk to contain 128 files.

Compatibility problems. There will be software that does not work with SuperBoot.

 Other than programs that attempt to function similarly to SuperBoot, I have not

 encountered any that have compatibility issues, though I am sure that they must exist.

 (SDCDOS is an exception and I felt that it was necessary to update SuperBoot

 to resolve the issues with SDCDOS.)

CONFIGURATION:

SuperBoot was designed to be installed on all the disks in a user’s library (with the exception of OS-9 disks and those that must use their own boot loader.) Each disk can have its own custom configuration.

 RUN”BCONFIG

You will be presented with a list of options for your system. Select the option using the UP and DOWN arrow keys. Change the selection with the LEFT and RIGHT arrow keys.

When, you are finished select SAVE TO DISK.

WHERE TO NEXT?

If you want to know how SuperBoot works, I have included the source code “BOOT.ASM.”

If you modify the source, you can move the new binary file to the boot granule with “MAKEBOOT.BAS.”

Before running MAKEBOOT, make sure your new boot file is named “BOOT.BIN.”

 Limitation: The length of BOOT.BIN cannot exceed 2304 bytes (it is currently 1378.)

Files on the SUPRBOOT.DSK virtual disk:

SuperBoot (Not listed in the directory)

BCONFIG.BAS - SuperBoot Configurator

BOOT.ASM - Assembly Source Code for SuperBoot

MAKEBOOT.BAS - Utility to Move BOOT.BIN to The Boot Granule on Track 34

BOOT.BIN - Assembled SuperBoot program. Can be run without installing on disk.

Files in this distribution Package:

Alphabet Soup - Chapter 1.docx - Excerpt from Mystery Novel

Books.jpg - List of my books, novella, and short stories available from Amazon, Barnes &

 Noble, and other booksellers

Code Breaker - Chapter 1.docx - Excerpt from Mystery Novel

Five Million Reasons Chapter 1.docx - Excerpt from Adventure Novel

Hiden Magic - Chapter 1.docx - Excerpt from Fantasy Novella

I’ll See You Again Last October Chapter 1.docx - Excerpt from Science Fiction Novel

Infection.docx - Full text of Short Story

SuperBoot Commented Disassembly.xlsx - Commented disassembly of SuperBoot

SuperBoot Manual.docx - This Document

SUPRBOOT.DSK - Disk Image for SuperBoot

The Alphabet Code - Chapter 1.docx - Excerpt from Mystery Novel

The Ethics of Silence - Chapter 1.docx - Excerpt from Science Fiction Novel