2in1

USER MANUAL

(Revised Edition)

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CONTENTS

2in1 is a powerful utility program which allows you to transfer files between an Amstrad PCW and an IBM PC, or close compatible - including, of course, the Amstrad PC1512.

There are no restrictions on the types of files which may be transferred using 2in1 but it is expected that most users will use the program to transfer data files between word-processors, databases, spreadsheets and similar programs. The data produced by such programs is often in a format which can be used by a variety of different programs, running on different machines, and thus the ability to transfer this data between machines can often save considerable time and effort. This is particularly true where data produced by a number of different departments, using different machines, has to be collated and put onto one machine for printing or for further processing, or where the same data may be required by users with different machines.

2in1 makes all this possible, not only by allowing individual files to be transferred between 3" Amstrad discs and 5¼" or 3½" IBM PC discs but also by allowing the SAME data disc to be used on BOTH machines. It does this by allowing you to create special 'dual-format' discs which can be used INTERCHANGEABLY between the Amstrad and a PC and which can be freely read from and written to just like any other disc! This feature was pioneered by Moonstone Computing and makes 2in1 unique among DOS <-> CP/M transfer programs - we know of no other program which offers a similar facility.

3

In order to make use of 2in1 you must have a 5¼" 40 or 80 track, or a 3½" 80 track disc drive fitted to your Amstrad in place of the normal 3" second drive. Suitable drives can be purchased from us if required - these drives are easily connected to the Amstrad and we supply step-by-step instructions with each drive.

Note that 2in1 will only run under Amstrad's CP/M BIOS version 1.4 (for a PCW8256/8512) or 1.0 (for a CPC464/664/6128). You can determine your BIOS version by looking at your computer's sign-on message when you boot. If you have a different version of CP/M, 2in1 will NOT run.

If you find that you have an **earlier** version of CP/M, you should contact Amstrad themselves and request an upgrade of your CP/M and LocoScript disc to the current release; they will supply this free of charge. Please do NOT ask US for an updated CP/M - we CANNOT supply it!

2in1 is supplied on a XFORMATted XCF2 3" disc (for PCW8256/8512) or a standard 3" Amstrad Data format disc (for CPC6128), which is intended to be used in Drive A. Each side of the disc contains the following files:

2IN1.COM	The main **2in1** program
2IN1.000	Overlay files used by **2in1**
to	
2IN1.007	
2IN1INST.COM	**2in1** installation program
WSCNVRT.COM	File conversion utility ASCII <-> WordStar
XFORMAT2.COM	Alternative to DISCKIT (PCW versions ONLY).

In addition, the file READ.ME may also be present on disc. This file contains details of any last minute updates or changes in the program or documentation. If this file is present then you can view it by typing TYPE READ.ME

Note that it is important that you do NOT rename any of the **2in1.xxx** files since the main program will no longer be able to find its overlays.

When you have checked the contents of the disc you should then backup the entire disc onto a blank 3" disc and then use this second disc as your working copy. The original disc should be kept in a safe place and should NOT be used as a working disc. This is necessary in case you should accidentally erase any files or in case the disc should become damaged in any way. Also, it may be necessary to return the original disc to your supplier in order to obtain any future upgrades of the program.

CPC users should backup the disc using DISCKIT3; PCW users should use XFORMAT (supplied with **2in1**) to format a blank disc and then copy the distribution disc onto it.

Before using **2in1** you may have to install it to cater for the particular type of disc drive you wish to use. The program comes already installed for an 80 track (96 tpi) disc drive (unless you have requested a special version). Installation for a 40 track (48 tpi) disc drive can be accomplished using the program 2IN1INST.COM - see Appendix A for full details.

Because of the relatively small amount of program memory available on the Amstrad and because **2in1** is such a large and powerful program it has been split up into a number of smaller overlay files. Each of these files deals with a particular **2in1** function and is loaded and run automatically from the main **2in1** program whenever the appropriate option is selected.

Although all the necessary files reside on the same disc, and are loaded and executed as efficiently as possible, it is inevitable that some delays will be experienced when using 2in1. To overcome these delays it is recommended that you use **2in1** from a RAMdisc (Drive M on the PCW) if you have one, by transferring the necessary files from Drive A to the RAMdisc at the start of each session. This can be done using the PIP program supplied with your Amstrad. You will probably find it helpful to have a copy of PIP on your **2in1** working disc. This can be achieved as follows:

First insert the disc containing PIP.COM into Drive A and type:

A>**pip**

followed by:

m:=a:pip.com

in response to the '*' prompt.

Now remove the disc from A and replace it with your **2in1** working disc (make sure that this disc is NOT write-protected). Now type:

a:=m:pip.com

then, when the '*' prompt re-appears, press RETURN to exit from PIP. Your working disc will now contain a copy of PIP.COM and from now on you need only this disc to use **2in1** from Drive M.

2in1 requires CP/M Plus to be loaded before it can be run. To
load CP/M, just turn on (or reset) the computer and insert your
CP/M Plus disc. CP/M will then load in the same way as
Locoscript, but will sign on and diplay a simple prompt -

A>

You can either run the program from your working disc in Drive
A, or (for faster operation) first load all of the **2in1.xxx**
files into RAMdisc (Drive M in CP/M) by typing the following
commands :

A>pip

Now remove your CP/M disc and insert your 2in1 working disc, and
type

m:=2in1.

This will transfer all the necessary files to RAM disc. When
this is complete then press **RETURN** to return to the CP/M prompt

A>

If you have loaded 2in1 into Drive M, then we must tell CP/M
that we want to use that drive by typing

A>m:

which will result in the prompt changing to

M>

To run the 2in1 program, simply type

2in1

at the CP/M prompt.

2in1 will 'sign on' by displaying a brief copyright notice on
the screen. After a short delay you will be presented with the
Main Menu which offers the following choices:

> **F - File Transfer**
> **D - Dual Format**
> **U - Utilities**
>
> **EXIT - Exit to CP/M**

Each of these options is fully explained in the following
chapters, but here is a brief summary of what they provide:

File Transfer   This option allows you to transfer files between a DOS disc in Drive B and a 3" Amstrad disc in Drive A. Alternatively, you may use a RAMdisc (e.g. Drive M on a PCW) instead of Drive A. File transfer can be in either direction, i.e. from DOS to CP/M or from CP/M to DOS.

Dual Format   This option allows you to create and manipulate special dual-format discs in Drive B. These discs can be used interchangeably between CP/M and DOS.

Utilities   This option allows you to display the directory of a DOS disc, analyse a DOS disc or even format a DOS disc on your Amstrad.

EXIT   Pressing the EXIT key (or the ESC key on the CPC range) will terminate the program and return you to CP/M. (You may re-enter the program by typing **2in1** and pressing RETURN.)

At various points throughout **2in1** you will be prompted to press a particular key (such as RETURN, Y or N) in response to a prompt. If, for any reason, you wish to abort from a particular operation then this can be usually be done by pressing EXIT instead of one of the requested responses. The message

        *** Abort Operation (y/n) ?

will then appear and pressing 'Y' will abandon the current operation and allow you to return to the Main Menu.

Selecting this option allows you to transfer files from CP/M to DOS and vice-versa. Files can be transferred between a 3" Amstrad disc in Drive A (or a RAMdisc) and ANY standard DOS disc in Drive B. The following types of DOS discs can be used with **2in1**:

> Single-sided 40-track with 8 sectors per track
> Single-sided 40-track with 9 sectors per track
> Double-sided 40-track with 8 sectors per track
> Double-sided 40-track with 9 sectors per track
> Double-sided 80-track with 9 sectors per track

You needn't worry if you do not know which of these discs is used by your PC since 2in1 automatically adjusts itself according to the type of disc used.

When you select the File Transfer option from the main menu the following sub-menu will appear:

FILE TRANSFER MENU

> A - Transfer files from DOS to CP/M
> B - Transfer files from CP/M to DOS

> **EXIT - Return to Main Menu**

If you do not wish to transfer any files then pressing EXIT will return you to the Main Menu.

Note that all file transfer operations take place using the **root** DOS directory. This means that files **cannot** be transferred to or from sub-directories. This restriction is necessary because of the limitations imposed by CP/M, and by some earlier versions of MS-DOS, which do not support sub-directories. In practice this should not be a problem since any PC which supports sub-directories will also provide the facilities to transfer files between these and the root directory.

8

3.1 Transferring files from DOS to CP/M

If you wish to transfer files from a DOS disc to a 3" Amstrad disc then select option A from the File Transfer Menu.

You will be asked to insert your MSDOS source disc into Drive B. When you have done this and pressed RETURN the disc will automatically be analysed and its format displayed. Next you will be asked to choose where you want to put the files -this can be either to a 3" Amstrad disc in Drive A or to a RAM disc. After selecting the destination drive you will be asked to enter a 'filespec' for the files you wish to copy. This may be anything from a single filename, such as DATABASE.DAT, to a filename containing 'wildcards', such as *.DOC (this would specify ALL files on the disc which have the extension .DOC -see your Amstrad User Guide for a full explanation of wildcards in filenames). Simply pressing RETURN will allow you to specify all files on disc.

The directory of the DOS disc will then be scanned to find if there are any files on disc which match your specification. If so then the number of matching files found will be displayed and you will be asked if you wish to copy them all. Answering 'N' will cause a list of all matching filenames to be displayed and you may select which of these you wish to transfer.

After you have chosen the required files they will then be transferred, one at a time, from the DOS disc to your specified destination drive. As each file is copied its name is echoed to the screen to keep you informed of the program's progress.

When all the chosen files have been succesfully transferred you will be asked to press RETURN to return you to the main 2in1 menu where you may continue with file transfer, select a different option, or press EXIT to return to CP/M.

Occasionally, when transferring files, you may find that you run out of space on the destination disc. If this should happen then the transfer will be suspended and the following message will appear:

NO MORE ROOM ON DESTINATION DISC FOR FILE(S)

Insert a new disc in DRIVE A and press RETURN

If you do not wish to continue transferring files then just press EXIT and follow the prompts to return to the main 2in1 menu.

If you do wish to continue then you must insert a new disc into DRIVE A - even if the current destination is a RAMdisc - then press RETURN. The transfer process will then be resumed and all subsequent files will be written to the new disc. If you are transferring a lot of data from a DOS disc you may find that you have to use several 3" discs to hold it all.

Remember, though, that you can flip each disc over and use the
other side when the first side becomes full. If you are
transferring a particularly large data file you may find that it
just will not fit on a 3" Amstrad disc, in which case you will
have to abort the transfer by pressing EXIT.

If you have a PCW with a full-capacity, 368K RAM disc then this
should be sufficient to hold even the largest DOS file since a
standard 40-track DOS disc can only hold a maximum of 360K.
Once you have such a file in the RAM disc you can then transfer
it - using PIP - to a large-capacity CP/M format disc in Drive
B.

3.2 Transferring files from CP/M to DOS

This option allows you to transfer files from a 3" Amstrad disc in Drive A to a DOS disc in Drive B. (Alternatively, you may use a RAMdisc as the source.) The sequence of operations which must be carried out is very similar to that used to transfer files from DOS to CP/M, except that the source and destination drives are reversed.

The process is initiated by selecting option B from the File Transfer Menu. You will then be prompted to select the source drive (A or M) containing the files which you wish to transfer. Next you will be asked to insert the destination disc into Drive B. This disc should be formatted to one of the standard MS-DOS formats BUT SHOULD OTHERWISE BE BLANK. (If it is not blank then any existing files on the disc will be over-written by the transferred files).

When you have inserted the disc you will be prompted to enter a filespec, as in the previous section, and also the CP/M user number where your source files are to be found. This will usually be User 0, in which case you may simply press RETURN, but otherwise you must enter the user number (1 to 15) then press RETURN. After this has been done you may select individual files for copying, as in the previous section, or copy all those files which match your filespec. You are then given the opportunity to add a volume label to the DOS disc if desired. The program will then proceed to transfer the chosen files to the DOS disc and you can then return to the Main Menu.

If you are transferring files to a small-capacity (single-sided) DOS disc then there may not be enough room on this to hold all your files. Should this situation occur then the program will transfer as many files as possible and then inform you that there is no more room on the destination disc. If you wish to transfer the remaining files then you will have to repeat the operation using a new disc and select for copying those files which have not yet been transferred.

These options allow you to create and manipulate special 'dual-format' discs which can be used interchangeably between CP/M and MS-DOS. This means that you can use the same data discs to store files which can be used by both the Amstrad and a PC. All you have to do is to 'update' the disc (using 2in1) each time you transfer it to a different machine.

The Dual Format Menu offers the following options:

                P - Prepare a disc for dual-format use
                U - Update a dual-format disc
                I - Install dual format for drive B
                R - Restore original format for drive B

                EXIT - Return to Main Menu

As usual, pressing the EXIT key will return you to the Main Menu if you do not wish to select any dual-format options. These options are described below but first here is a description of the use of dual-format discs.

Dual-format discs are specially prepared discs which can be used both on the Amstrad under CP/M, and on a PC, under MS-DOS. The format of these discs depends on the type of disc drive you are using. If you have a 5¼" drive then you must use double-sided 40-track MS-DOS discs with 9 sectors per track and if you have a 3½" drive then you must use double-sided 80-track MS-DOS discs with 9 sectors per track. These are options D and E, respectively, of the Format Menu. Other formats, such as single-sided ones, are not suitable. If your PC uses 5¼" discs but you are not sure in which format then you should be able to tell from the MS-DOS version number and/or the total disc capacity.

All versions of MS-DOS from 2.0 onwards should be suitable but you can make sure by using a program such as CHKDSK to show the size of your discs. If this is 360K then your discs are suitable for dual-format use - anything less than this means that you cannot use these discs in dual-format mode.

Before you can use a disc in dual-format mode you must first 'prepare' the disc using option 'P' below. After this has been done you may use the disc under either CP/M or MS-DOS. When you have finished using it under one system and wish to use it on the other you must first 'update' it so that it will be recognised by the other machine.

Because dual-format discs have a special format there are some limitations to what you may and may not do with them. Under DOS you will notice that you lose some space when using a disc in dual-format mode - the total free space on a newly-prepared disc becomes 247K under both MS-DOS and CP/M.

Another limitation is that you must NOT create sub-directories on the disc but must only use the root directory to store files. This is necessary because CP/M has no way of manipulating DOS-like sub-directories. There is nothing to prevent you from using sub-directories under DOS but they will NOT be recognised by CP/M - in fact you will be unable to update the disc for use by CP/M until you have removed all sub-directories from the disc.

The only limitation when using a dual-format disc under CP/M is that you must only store files in User 0. This is similar to the above limitation on the use of sub-directories and is imposed for the same reason of incompatibility between the two systems. As with sub-directories there is nothing to prevent you from using different user areas but you will be unable to update the disc for use by DOS until you have deleted any files which are not in User 0. You MAY use hidden and/or read-only files in both DOS and CP/M and these attributes will be recognised by both systems.

4.1 Preparing a disc for dual-format use

This option is used to create dual-format discs which are suitable for use by both CP/M and MS-DOS. Each disc used must first be formatted to a standard MS-DOS double-sided 40 or 80-track format with 9 sectors per track. This can either be done on a PC, using the FORMAT program supplied with your machine, or on the Amstrad itself using 2in1's format utility.

When you have a blank, formatted disc you can then use this option to prepare the disc for dual-format use. Simply insert the disc into drive B when requested and press RETURN. The disc will then be checked, to ensure that it is of the correct format, and will then be 'prepared' for dual-format use. After this it may be used freely by EITHER CP/M or MS-DOS.

Remember that you MUST 'update' the disc each time you transfer it between machines. This can be done using the 'update' option from the Dual Format Menu (see below) or by inserting the dual-format disc into drive B (on the Amstrad) and typing UPDATE. The latter action will load and run a special update program which will have been placed on the disc when it was prepared for dual-format use (of course you must first have set up the Amstrad to recognise dual-format discs in drive B - see section 4.3 below). It is essential that this file be present on all dual-format discs and thus you should NEVER attempt to delete it. It is stored as a hidden file and thus it will NOT normally be shown when you list the directory. Nevertheless, it IS still present in the directory and, although it has been made a read-only file for protection, it can still be deleted if you try hard enough! Note that dual-format discs also contain a hidden DOS file called RESERVED.CPM which must never be deleted.

WARNING - Preparing a disc for dual-format use will destroy any files already on the disc. Thus you should always ensure that you use a BLANK disc unless you are sure that any files present are no longer required. You must also only prepare a disc ONCE, before using it as a dual-format disc - attempting to prepare it again will destroy any files you may have written to it and result in a newly prepared dual-format disc.

4.2 Updating a dual-format disc for use by CP/M

This option will allow you to re-use a dual-format disc under CP/M. You MUST use this routine after you have written to the disc using MS-DOS and then wish to use the disc with CP/M. Otherwise any additions or changes you have made to the disc will NOT be recognised by CP/M, and old files may be corrupted. Note that the disc must first have been prepared for dual-format use; this is done using option 'P' above.

4.3 Updating a dual-format disc for use by MS-DOS

This option will allow you to re-use a dual-format disc under
MS-DOS. You MUST use this routine after you have written to the
disc using CP/M and then wish to use the disc with MS-DOS.
Otherwise any additions or changes you have made to the disc
will NOT be recognised by MS-DOS, and old files may be
corrupted. Note that the disc must first have been prepared for
dual-format use; this is done using option 'P' above.

4.4 Installing the dual-format for drive B

Before you can use a dual-format disc on the Amstrad you must
first use this option to let the system know that it has a
special disc in drive B. You will be asked to select whether
you wish to install the format for a 5¼" or 3½" drive and you
should respond by pressing 5 or 3 as appropriate. The special
dual format will then be installed and you may now exit to CP/M
where you will be able to use dual-format discs in drive B just
as you would any other CP/M discs.

4.5 Restoring original format on drive B

After having used dual-format discs in drive B you may wish to
return to using standard Amstrad (CF2DD) format discs. However,
these will no longer be recognised by the PCW since the system
expects to find a special dual-format disc in drive B. You
could of course re-boot your machine in order to restore the old
format but selecting this menu option will save you having to
take such drastic action.

WARNING

If you write to a dual-format disc on one machine and then
attempt to use it on the other, WITHOUT HAVING FIRST UPDATED IT,
then you run the risk of corrupting some (or all) of the files
on the disc! If you can't remember whether or not you have used
a dual-format disc since it was last updated then you should
update it again to make sure. There is no harm in attempting to
update a disc without having used it and indeed it is good
practice to ALWAYS update a disc before it is used.

15

Selecting this option allows you to access some utilities which you may find useful when using DOS discs. When you select the Utilities option from the main menu the following sub-menu will appear:

UTILITIES MENU

A - Analyse DOS disc
D - Display directory of DOS disc
F - Format DOS disc

EXIT - Return to Main Menu

5.1 Analysing a DOS disc

This option gives technical information which will probably only be useful to those who have some knowledge of the structure of a DOS disc. Nevertheless, it can be used by anyone who simply wishes to have a 'look' at a DOS disc or to find out why a particular disc cannot be used by 2in1.

As usual, you will be asked to insert the disc into drive B and press RETURN. When you have done this then, if the disc is indeed a DOS disc, the following information will be displayed:

BIOS PARAMETER BLOCK

	ACTUAL		EXPECTED
JP	235	-28620	
ID	MSDOS3.2		
Bytes/sector	512		512
Secs/cluster	2		2
Reserved secs	1		1
No. of FATs	2		2
Directory entries	112		112
Secs/vol	720		720
Media byte	253		253
Secs/FAT	2		2
Secs/track	9		9
No. of heads	2		2
Hidden secs	0		0

(This particular display indicates a standard 360K double-sided DOS disc - other DOS discs will have different parameters.)

The details displayed refer to an area of the disc known as the Bios Parameter Block, or BPB for short. This BPB is present on every DOS disc and contains essential information about the

16

format of the disc such as its maximum storage capacity and the 'size' of each track. This information is used by DOS itself - and by 2in1 - to determine what kind of disc is being used.

You will notice that there are in fact two BPBs displayed - ACTUAL and EXPECTED. The actual BPB is extracted directly from disc and contains information about the precise format of the disc. The expected BPB is calculated by 2in1 from a separate byte on disc known as the media descriptor byte. This byte determines the overall format of a disc, as shown in the table below:

Media Byte	Disc Format
0FCh	Single-sided 9 secs/track
0FDh	Double-sided 9 secs/track
0FEh	Single-sided 8 secs/track
0FFh	Double-sided 8 secs/track

Normally, the two BPBs displayed will be exactly the same. However, some DOS discs may have slightly modified formats in which case the actual BPB will differ slightly from the expected one.

5.2 Displaying a DOS directory

This option will save you from having to transfer a DOS disc to a PC if all you want to do is examine the disc's root directory. In addition to displaying the normal files on a disc it will also list any hidden or system files present as well as the disc volume label and any sub-directories. These are displayed on the screen in the following order:

        Volume Label
        User Files
        Hidden Files
        System Files
        Sub-directories

Note that any files which are both system files AND hidden files will appear under each heading.

5.3 Formatting a DOS disc

This option allows you to format DOS discs on the Amstrad without the need for a PC. When you select this option the following menu will appear:

```
              FORMAT OPTIONS
              --------------

   A - Single-sided, 8 sectors per track (160K)
   B - Single-sided, 9 sectors per track (180K)
   C - Double-sided, 8 sectors per track (320K)
   D - Double-sided, 9 sectors per track (360K)
   E - Double-sided, 9 sectors per track (720K)
   V - Verify DOS disc

         EXIT - Return to Main Menu
```

Selecting option A,B,C,D or E will allow you to format a disc to the specified format. Such discs will then be fully compatible with MSDOS and can be used on a normal PC. Note that selecting option D or E will format discs which you can then use as dual-format discs but you must still 'prepare' them as detailed in section four. Option E is only available if you have an 80-track drive fitted. The last option in the menu allows you to verify a DOS disc, track by track, to ensure that it is not corrupt. Note that you are automatically given the option to verify a disc immediately after formatting it.

18

This section describes the use of the program 2IN1INST.COM which is supplied as part of the 21n1 system. This program allows you to alter some of the defaults used throughout 21n1 to suit your particular requirements.

The program works by altering parts of the main program, 2IN1.COM, so that any changes you make will take effect when you subsequently run the main program.

When the installation program is run, by typing 2IN1INST from the command line, you will be presented with the following menu:

CONFIGURATION MENU

T - Terminal

D - Drive

R - RAM Disc

EXIT - Exit to CP/M

Selecting an option will allow you to re-configure the appropriate 21n1 default parameters.

A.1 Configuring the Terminal

21n1 can send control strings to the Amstrad's VT52 terminal emulator. If you want to have a special setup (perhaps you prefer to work in inverse video, for example) then you can re-configure 21n1 provide this.

When you ask to alter a terminal string, 21n1 will display the current contents of the string in **hex** and will prompt you for replacement input. If you simply press RETURN at this point, the string will be emptied. Otherwise, you may type in up to 15 bytes in hex, separating each with a space, tab or comma. Within a byte, DELete allows you to correct a mistake. You cannot move backwards in the string or forwards other than by entering values.

A.1.1. Terminal Initialisation string

21n1 automatically sends an initialisation string to the terminal emulator when it starts to run. The default string is a "Home and Clear" command - 27h, 48h, 27h, 4Ah. For inverse video operation you can replace this by the following string:

1Bh 62h 3Fh 1Bh 63h 00h

A.1.2. Terminal Exit string

2in1 also sends a command string to the terminal emulator when you quit the program. If you want to ensure that the terminal is left in a particular state, then configure this string accordingly. The default string is a "Home and Clear" command – 27h, 48h, 27h, 4Ah. If you have set the Terminal Initialisation string to produce inverse video then use the following Terminal Exit string to restore the screen to normal video on exit.

    1Bh 62h 00h 1Bh 63h 3Fh

A full list of permissible terminal commands can be found in the appropriate section of your Amstrad User Guide.

A.2 Configuring the Disc Drive

This option allows you to alter the parameter which specifies the type of disc drive you have attached to your Amstrad.

2in1 will always adjust itself and the Amstrad automatically to take account of the type of disc drive you have, but you must tell it! The default is for a **96tpi** (80-track) drive, which also covers 40/80 track switchables. If you want to use a **48tpi** (40-track only) drive, then alter this parameter accordingly.

For normal operation of 2in1 – EVEN WHEN USING A 40 TRACK FORMAT – Drive Type should be left set to 80 TRACK.

2in1 will **automatically** compensate and force the BIOS to double-step when a 40 track format is installed with an 80 track disc drive. There is normally **NO** need to alter this parameter – though doing so will do no harm. For convenience, if you have a switchable drive, leave both this parameter and the disc drive set to **80 track** at all times.

A.3 Configuring the RAM Disc

This option allows you to specify the CP/M designation of the temporary drive that 2in1 will allow you to use as a RAM disc. On a PCW this will normally be configured to be Drive M while a CPC version of MFU will normally have this default set to None.

On a CPC, you might want to change this if you have a third-party add-on RAMdisc and want the same benefits of speed and temporary storage capacity that PCW owners have. However, please note that 2in1 offers no specific support for any available CPC RAMdisc units, and will only work with drivers which do not compete for the same memory and system functions used by 2in1.

2in1 performs all disc I/O using BDOS functions, and so a properly written CP/M Plus device driver RSX should be compatible.

On a PCW, you would normally never want to alter this parameter. However, if you have a hard disc attached to your machine (as Drive C, perhaps) then you could choose to use this as the 'RAM' disc - it will be almost as fast as the normal RAMdisc, and will of course have a far greater capacity.

Again, however, please note that non-Amstrad hard disc BIOSes may well themselves not be compatible with 2in1 at all.

Any valid drive letter can be chosen for your RAMdisc from the range A to M. This should obviously be a valid drive - i.e. you must have a drive of that name present on your computer!

NOTES