

XLTERM User's Manual

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## XLTERM User's Manual

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### What is this document?

This document describes XLTERM, a terminal emulator program for use with the Chickadee XL.

### What is XLTERM?

XLTERM runs under DOS on a PC. A serial link between the PC and the Chickadee XL is necessary for application development. Any terminal emulator program can be used for the link, but XLTERM offers some features that make it work better with the Chickadee XL than other terminal emulators.

### How to use XLTERM

From the DOS prompt, type **XLTERM**. This will start up XLTERM in the default configuration, which is for COM1 (I/O address 3F8, IRQ4). If you need to use a different COM port, use the /A and /I command line switches:

- /A2F8 /I3 for COM2
- /A3E8 /I4 for COM3
- /A2E8 /I3 for COM4

Any non-standard COM port based on an 8250 or compatible UART can also be accommodated. IRQ3 - IRQ7 are supported. For help with the command line switches, type **XLTERM /?** at the DOS prompt.

XLTERM is a very basic, simple program, but it has two features which make use with the Chickadee XL desirable. The first is the ability to switch to higher speeds when making a file transfer. The second is the ability to send transfer commands to the Chickadee XL automatically. This eliminates the need to type the transfer command on both ends.

### Uploading

To use XLTERM for uploading to the Chickadee XL, the TRANSFER program must be present on the Chickadee XL flash disk. At the XLTERM screen, press <ALT>U to begin uploading. You will be prompted for a filename. You may use a complete file specification,

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including drive, directory, filename, etc., but no wildcards. XLTERM will issue the corresponding TRANSFER command to the Chickadee XL, change to the transfer speed, and send the file via XMODEM checksum protocol. After the transfer is complete, XLTERM will change back to link speed (typically 9600 baud).

In the XLTERM.INI file, the parameter XFRBAUD specifies the baud rate to use during file transfers. Some common rates are 19200, 38400, and 57600. You may edit this parameter if you encounter errors during transfers. Use the highest rate that gives reliable results.

The command string that XLTERM sends to the Chickadee XL to initiate an upload is specified by the UPLOADCMD parameter in XLTERM.INI. The %s is a placeholder for the filename, which XLTERM fills in. You may edit this parameter to change baud rates.

### Downloading

To use XLTERM for downloading from the Chickadee XL, the TRANSFER program must be present on the Chickadee XL flash disk. At the XLTERM screen, press <ALT>D to begin downloading. You will be prompted for a filename. No wildcards are allowed. XLTERM will issue the corresponding TRANSFER command to the Chickadee XL, change to the transfer speed, and receive the file via XMODEM checksum protocol. After the transfer is complete, XLTERM will change back to link speed (typically 9600 baud).

The command string that XLTERM sends to the Chickadee XL to initiate a download is specified by the DOWNLOADCMD parameter in XLTERM.INI. The <%s> is a placeholder for the filename, which XLTERM fills in. You may edit this parameter to change baud rates.

### Clearing the screen

When you want to clear the terminal screen, press <ALT>C.

### Exiting the program

When you want to exit the program, press <ALT>X.

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### Handshaking

XLTERM does not use any handshaking. The only RS-232 signals that need to be connected are Transmit, Receive, and Ground. The state of DSR, CTS, RI, DCD are irrelevant.