SuperDrive Instructions

Required Hardware and Software

SuperDrive is designed to work with Alpha Technology's 1-megabyte Supermem Board for the TRS-80 Models 1, 3, 4, and 4P. SuperDrive must be used with either LDOS 5.1, LDOS 5.3, TRSDOS 6, or LS-DOS 6.3 (one copy of SuperDrive works with any of these DOS's).

Operation

Copy SUPERDRV/CMD from the SuperDrive master disk to your DOS disk and put the SuperDrive master disk away in a safe place. Then type:

SUPERDRV d,n<enter>

where "d" is the drive number assignment for SuperDrive, and n is the number of 32K banks of memory you wish SuperDrive to use. Example, if you type SUPERDRV 3,8<enter>, SuperDrive will be assigned to drive :3 and will be 256K in size (8 times 32K). If you assign SuperDrive to a drive number that is already in use, the drive for that number will be assigned to the next number, and all drives above that one will be bumped up by one number as well. If "d" and "n" are omitted then SuperDrive will be assigned to the first available drive number and will be 128K in size.

SuperDrive does no memory testing other than a quick check to see how many banks of memory are present on you system. If you try to install SuperDrive using an "n" value greater that the amount of available memory, SuperDrive will limit itself to available memory. When SuperDrive is installing itself it will tell you it's size, drive number, and starting bank number. Banks are numbered 0 through 31, with banks 0 and 1 being the primary 64K for use by the DOS and application program. SuperDrive will never attempt to use banks 0 and 1.

Installing SuperDrive as drive :0

If you assign SuperDrive to be drive number 0 then all the system files will automatically be copied from your first floppy drive to SuperDrive. Once installation is complete, SuperDrive will now act as you super high speed system drive. To install a 192K SuperDrive as the system drive, for example, you would type: SUPERDRV 0,6<enter>. If you use the "/A" extension (example: SUPERDRV 0,6/A), this will tell SuperDrive to copy all the files from the old floppy drive 0 to the new SuperDrive 0.

Installing more than one SuperDrive

After installing the first SuperDrive you may install a second (or third) SuperDrive just by reentering SUPERDRV d,n<enter> again. To check to see how all your floppies and SuperDrives are assigned, just type DEVICE<enter>.

Recovery of SuperDrive after reset

After an accidental reset it is possible to recover all SuperDrive installations with all files in tact just by typing:
SUPERDRV *<enter>

Caution, SuperDrive cannot repair any data in memory that may have changed value during the reset or that may have been altered by a run-away program. Keep in mind that this recovery procedure only works if no data in the upper banks of memory has been erased or changed between the time the SuperDrive was last working and the time recovery is attempted. Holding the reset button down for longer that a split second will degradate memory. Be sure to backup all data from SuperDrive to a floppy before turning your computer off.