TBBLUE SD Distribution v.0.8

https://www.specnext.com/tbblue-distribution-v-0-8-nextos-v-1-93c-new-core-1-10-009-new-firmware-1-04f/

OBLIGATORY DISCLAIMER: *READ* THIS POST IN ITS ENTIRETY BEFORE ASKING FOR HELP

In the link you will find TBBLUE v.0.8 SD card distribution containing the following changes over v.0.7:

- **New FW 1.04f** with additional option for alternative PS/2 controller (Option: [AlternativePS] in **config.ini** and the ability to flash in **AntiBrick (AB)** mode without a working keyboard present by utilizing the *M1* (Y) and *Drive* (N) buttons for input. Also available is a visual helper for blind updates (Separate information about that in a different article)
- **New Core 1.10.009** with further improvements in keyboard membrane handling (realization of a state machine to read the membrane), consolidation of two cores with different PS/2 keyboard controllers (selectable via EDITOR module and **config,ini** –*see above*-)
- **New NextOS 1.93c** in two versions: one with Geoff Wearmouth's Gosh Wonderful 1.32 48K ROM (Default) which is incompatible for now with games utilizing the Nirvana/Nirvana+ Engines and one with the standard 48K ROM which IS compatible with the Nirvana Engines. Also additional fixes in loading of several games which were previously incompatible with even original 128K machines
- **New UART** dot command with several bug fixes which allows usage of a 9600 baud speed without a timeout. Also has CIPSEND mode that allows usage like a terminal.
- **New SANXION Spectrum Remix** in the games folder, distributed with kind permission by Thalamus, featuring the originally intended loading screen in two versions 48K and 128K.

Installation

Prepare the card as usual, dumping the appropriate version (Regular or speed reduced) into your card. Firmware file will be replaced.

**********WARNING*********

USERS OF FlashAir CARDS are advised to perform ALL file copy operations locally on their PC/MAC and NOT over the air.

**********IMPORTANT NOTES**********

- If you're a user of a Perixx PS/2 keyboard or a keyboard with a similar controller (ie certain Lenovo PS/2 keyboards) you may find yourself after upgrading without a functioning keyboard. In that case locate the [**AlternativePS2**] section in your **config.ini** file and switch it from 0 to 1 or vice-versa

- Default **config.ini** settings assume an HDMI monitor. If you're using a VGA monitor you should delete your **config.ini** file located in **c:/tbblue/** and replace it with the **config.ini.VGA** file (also located there) renamed to **config.ini**

Flashing the new core

1. For people with functioning keyboards after boot and/or membranes (but which also have PS/2 keyboards)

Let the machine boot normally, then press and hold **U** on your PS/2 keyboard, then tap momentarily on **F1** (still holding **U**) and release **U** when you see the updater module. Press **Y,** wait until all flashing is completed, then power down the Next and *REMOVE ALL CABLES*. Wait a little and then plug everything back up again. If you have a VGA you need to replace your **config.ini** (*see above*) or edit it and set the second number after the machine type to 0. If you're in Brazil, Japan, the USA or Canada or any country that uses normally an NTSC TV signal (or a PAL 60 signal), chances are your monitor only supports 60Hz, so go ahead and tap **F3** now -or alternatively you can change the [**50_60**] setting to 1 from **config.ini** or by editing the settings at boot time with the EDITOR module (Press **SPACEBAR** when prompted on boot then press **E** to edit your settings)

2. For people with Perixx PS/2 keyboards and/or keyboards with a similar controller on board AND people with membranes that are not functioning or having trouble entering the UPDATER module.

- Enter AntiBrick (AB) mode by removing all cables (including HDMI), pressing and holding M1 and Drive (simulaneously), then reapplying power (no HDMI or VGA yet) waiting a few seconds (2-3) and releasing the keys, then reconnecting the display lead that worked for you previously. Press **Y** for update. If **Y** cannot be pressed then the press M1 button for **Y** or Drive button for **N**
- Once the flashing is completed and before booting, take your card to a PC, edit the **config.ini** as described in the *Important Notes* section above to enable the alternative keyboard controller
- Follow the instructions in Step 1 to boot the system.

Download the distribution

http://www.specnext.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/TBBLUE-v.0.8.zip

Credits

Article image: Sanxion New loading screen by Jarrod Bentley
TBBLUE Core/FW: Victor Trucco (with input from Mark Smith)
Sanxion: Thalamus / Distributed under License
NextOS: Garry Lancaster
Gosh Wonderful: Geoff Wearmouth
ZX80/81 Emulators: Paul Farrow
Demos: David Saphier
Dot Commands: esxDOS team and contributors, Allen Albright, Tim Gilberts, Jim Bagley, Garry Lancaster