

FDD - Bus Interface

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5.25" DRIVES

Are You READY (or DISK CHANGE)?

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In the following figure you can see the BUS signals for the even PINs (2 to 34) for a number of 5.25" drives. For the most part they are identical, but only almost. The differences lie in PINs 2, 4, 6 and 34. All drives use the so-called Shugart interface with 34 signals or lines. On the far right I have listed the interface for the IBM compatible controllers. This supports only two drives, not four! The motor control is also different. Take a close look at the PINs 10 to 16.

FLOPPY DISK DRIVE / BUS INTERFACE(S) / 5,25" / 34 PIN																
SHUGART	SHUGART	QUINE	SHUGART	QUINE	SHUGART	MTSUSHI	BASF	BASF	BASF	TANDON	TANDON	TEAC	TEAC	PC	N° Horizon	
SA 400	SA 400L	QuineTrak 142	SA 400/400L	QuineTrak 142	SA 400	MMS2/MS3	6126/138	6108	6108	TMSD-1	TMSD-2	FD-50B	FD-50GV	CONTROLLER	MDS-AD3, 5-100	
SINGLE SIDED	SINGLE SIDED	DOUBLE SIDED	SINGLE SIDED	DOUBLE SIDED	DOUBLE SIDED	DOUBLE SIDED	DOUBLE SIDED	SINGLE SIDED	DOUBLE SIDED	SINGLE SIDED	DOUBLE SIDED	DOUBLE SIDED	DOUBLE SIDED	DOUBLE SIDED	SINGLE SIDED	
2	-/-	-/-	-/-	-/-	-/-	-/-	-/-	-/-	-/-	HEAD LOAD	HEAD LOAD	CONNECTOR CLAMP	CONNECTOR CLAMP	-/-	HIGH DENSITY / NORMAL DENSITY	
4	-/-	-/-	-/-	-/-	-/-	IN USE	IN USE	HEAD LOAD	READY	READY	DRIVE SELECT 4	DRIVE SELECT 4	DRIVE SELECT 4	DRIVE SELECT 4	-/-	
6	-/-	DRIVE SELECT 4	DRIVE SELECT 4	DRIVE SELECT 4	DRIVE SELECT 4	DRIVE SELECT 4	DRIVE SELECT 4	READY	READY	DRIVE SELECT 4	DRIVE SELECT 4	DRIVE SELECT 4	DRIVE SELECT 4	DRIVE SELECT 4	-/-	
8	INDEX	INDEX	INDEX	INDEX	INDEX	INDEX	INDEX	INDEX	INDEX	INDEX	INDEX	INDEX	INDEX	INDEX	INDEX	
10	DRIVE SELECT 1	DRIVE SELECT 1	DRIVE SELECT 1	DRIVE SELECT 1	DRIVE SELECT 1	DRIVE SELECT 1	DRIVE SELECT 1	DRIVE SELECT 1	DRIVE SELECT 1	DRIVE SELECT 1	DRIVE SELECT 1	DRIVE SELECT 1	DRIVE SELECT 1	DRIVE SELECT 1	MOTOR ENABLE A	
12	DRIVE SELECT 2	DRIVE SELECT 2	DRIVE SELECT 2	DRIVE SELECT 2	DRIVE SELECT 2	DRIVE SELECT 2	DRIVE SELECT 2	DRIVE SELECT 2	DRIVE SELECT 2	DRIVE SELECT 2	DRIVE SELECT 2	DRIVE SELECT 2	DRIVE SELECT 2	DRIVE SELECT 2	DRIVE SELECT 2	
14	DRIVE SELECT 3	DRIVE SELECT 3	DRIVE SELECT 3	DRIVE SELECT 3	DRIVE SELECT 3	DRIVE SELECT 3	DRIVE SELECT 3	DRIVE SELECT 3	DRIVE SELECT 3	DRIVE SELECT 3	DRIVE SELECT 3	DRIVE SELECT 3	DRIVE SELECT 3	DRIVE SELECT 3	DRIVE SELECT 3	
16	MOTOR ON	MOTOR ON	MOTOR ON	MOTOR ON	MOTOR ON	MOTOR ON	MOTOR ON	MOTOR ON	MOTOR ON	MOTOR ON	MOTOR ON	MOTOR ON	MOTOR ON	MOTOR ON	MOTOR ON	
18	DIRECTION SELECT	DIRECTION SELECT	DIRECTION SELECT	DIRECTION SELECT	DIRECTION SELECT	DIRECTION SELECT	DIRECTION SELECT	DIRECTION IN	DIRECTION IN	DIRECTION IN	DIRECTION IN	DIRECTION IN	DIRECTION IN	DIRECTION IN	DIRECTION IN	
20	STEP	STEP	STEP	STEP	STEP	STEP	STEP	STEP	STEP	STEP	STEP	STEP	STEP	STEP	STEP	
22	WRITE DATA	WRITE DATA	WRITE DATA	WRITE DATA	WRITE DATA	WRITE DATA	WRITE DATA	WRITE DATA	WRITE DATA	WRITE DATA	WRITE DATA	WRITE DATA	WRITE DATA	WRITE DATA	WRITE DATA	
24	WRITE GATE	WRITE GATE	WRITE GATE	WRITE GATE	WRITE GATE	WRITE GATE	WRITE GATE	WRITE GATE	WRITE GATE	WRITE GATE	WRITE GATE	WRITE GATE	WRITE GATE	WRITE GATE	WRITE GATE	
26	TRACK 00	TRACK 00	TRACK 00	TRACK 00	TRACK 00	TRACK 00	TRACK 00	TRACK 00	TRACK 00	TRACK 00	TRACK 00	TRACK 00	TRACK 00	TRACK 00	TRACK 00	
28	WRITE PROTECT	WRITE PROTECT	WRITE PROTECT	WRITE PROTECT	WRITE PROTECT	WRITE PROTECT	WRITE PROTECT	WRITE PROTECT	WRITE PROTECT	WRITE PROTECT	WRITE PROTECT	WRITE PROTECT	WRITE PROTECT	WRITE PROTECT	WRITE PROTECT	
30	READ DATA	READ DATA	READ DATA	READ DATA	READ DATA	READ DATA	READ DATA	READ DATA	READ DATA	READ DATA	READ DATA	READ DATA	READ DATA	READ DATA	READ DATA	
32	-/-	-/-	SIDE SELECT	-/-	-/-	-/-	-/-	-/-	-/-	-/-	-/-	-/-	-/-	-/-	-/-	
34	-/-	-/-	-/-	-/-	-/-	-/-	READY	READY	IN USE / DISK CHANGE	IN USE / DISK CHANGE	CONNECTOR CLAMP	CONNECTOR CLAMP	READY	READY / DISK CHANGE	DISK CHANGE	
ns.	undefined	drive to controller														
ns.	not underlined	controller to drive														
ms.	deviation from standard															

Floppy disk drive bus interface(s) / 5,25" / 34 pin
[\(full size\)](#)

About Pin's and Lines

- [PIN 2 ... HEAD LOAD - DENSITY SELECT](#)
- [PIN 4 ... IN USE - HEAD LOAD](#)
- [PIN 6 ... DRIVE SELECT 4 - READY](#)
- [PIN 8 ... INDEX/SECTOR](#)
- [PIN 10 .. DRIVE SELECT 1](#)

- [PIN 12 .. DRIVE SELECT 2](#)
 - [PIN 14 .. DRIVE SELECT 3](#)
 - [PIN 16 .. MOTOR ON](#)
 - [PIN 18 .. DIRECTION SELECT](#)
 - [PIN 20 .. STEP](#)
 - [PIN 22 .. WRITE DATE](#)
 - [PIN 24 .. WRITE GATE](#)
 - [PIN 26 .. TRACK 0](#)
 - [PIN 28 .. WRITE PROTECT](#)
 - [PIN 30 .. READ DATE](#)
 - [PIN 32 .. SIDE SELECT](#)
 - [PIN 34 .. READY - IN USE - DISK CHANGE - DRIVE SELECT 4](#)
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PIN 2 / HEAD LOAD - DENSITY SELECT

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This line can have two different functions. With the 8" drives, PIN 2 has a very important meaning (TG43), but more about that later.

1. HEAD LOAD / controller >>> disk

With this signal, the read-write HEAD of the drive is LOADED, i.e. pressed onto the disk surface and premagnetised. You can recognise the head loading by the characteristic crackling sound.

2. DENSITY SELECT / controller >>> disk

This signal is used to switch the operating mode of DUAL SPEED drives between normal/double density (DD) and high density (HD). The controller outputs a LOW when double density disks are detected, or a HIGH when high density disks are detected.

PIN 4 / IN USE - HEAD LOAD

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This line can have two different functions.

1. IN USE / controller >>> disk

This signal is used to tell the drive that accesses are coming soon. Often, however, this signal can only be used to switch on the lamp on the front bezel.

2. HEAD LOAD / controller >>> disk

With this signal, the read-write HEAD of the drive is LOADED, i.e. pressed onto the disk surface and premagnetised. You can recognise the head loading by the characteristic crackling sound.

PIN 6 / DRIVE SELECT 4 - READY

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This line can have two different functions:

1. DRIVE SELECT 4 / controller >>> disk

I always use the numbers 1 to 4 for the DRIVE SELECT, but in the literature you will sometimes also find the number ordering 0 to 3. So, watch out!

On the floppy drive, four jumpers can be used to choose which DRIVE SELECT line is to be used to select and activate the drive.

Very important: On the North Star Horizon controller the DS4 signal is provided on line 34; not 6!

2. READY / controller <<< disk

This line is used to indicate the readiness of a drive: a floppy disk is inserted, the motor is running but the HEAD is not yet LOADED. READY is usually required on XT systems.

This signal can also be on [PIN 34](#).

PIN 8 / INDEX / controller <<< disk

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The selected drive applies a pulse to this line each time the index hole on the disk passes the index sensor. The pulse marks the beginning of a track on soft-sectored disks.

PIN 10 / DRIVE SELECT 1 / controller >>> disk

PIN 12 / DRIVE SELECT 2 / controller >>> disk

PIN 14 / DRIVE SELECT 3 / controller >>> disk

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