

FZ1 ODE Quick Start Guide

Overview

FZ1 Optical Disc Emulator (ODE) is allowing users to keep enjoying their Panasonic FZ1 consoles long after their optical drive fails. Due to the nature of the components used in FZ1 cdrom drive, it will eventually fail, rendering the console useless.

The ODE features :

- Field updatable
- microSD and USB¹ storage media support
- FAT12/16/32 and ExFAT formatted drives ².
- .ISO, CUE/BIN image support with more coming in the upcoming updates
- NVRam backup/restore
- Multi disc game support

Installation

Important! Before proceeding with disassembling the console, installing or operating the ODE, unplug the console from the wall socket.

Following procedures, if executed without proper attention and accuracy may permanently damage your console or the ODE. By proceeding, you acknowledge that everything you're doing is at your own risk and responsibility, and you will not hold us responsible for any of such damages. You can watch an excellent video about installation here :

<https://youtu.be/D1wM-qgRGNw>

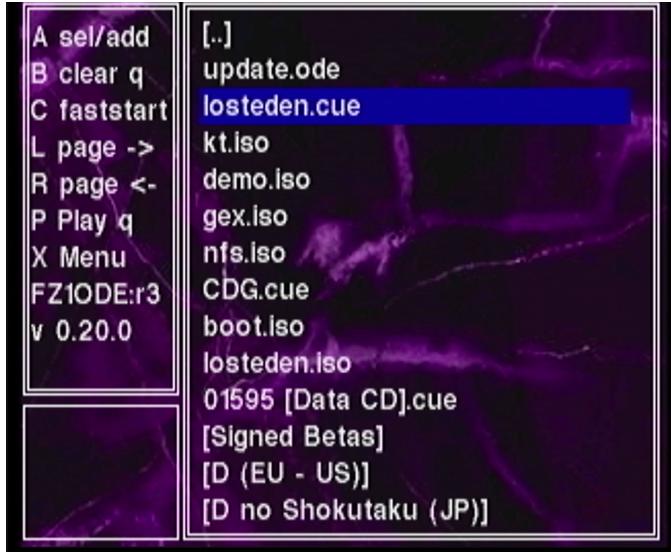
- Unscrew 4 phillips head screws from the bottom of the console.
- Remove the top cover
- Unscrew the screws holding the CDRom drive
- Carefully remove the ribbon cables from the CDRom drive.
- Take CDRom apart to remove the surrounding bracket.
- Mount ODE to the CDRom bracket
- Connect the ODE to the ribbon cables, making sure that blue stripes are facing down.
- Mount the bracket to the console

Media preparation

The ODE is designed to automatically attach “boot.iso” upon power up. This is used to store the menu program, but alternatively, can be used to permanently load one game (Arcade environment). To prepare the media, download latest boot.iso from here :

<https://github.com/fixelsan/3do-ode-firmware/releases> and place it onto the root of your selected media. Keep in mind, if you’re using both microSD and USB flash drive, microSD will attempt to boot first. Place game images in your desired locations. They can be split by folders or placed together.

Menu operations



Layout overview:

Left pane is a quick guide to the buttons.

Right pane is the file browser or menu selector.

Blue cursor indicates the file browser. The names in [square brackets] indicate directories.

Special directory [...] indicate return to the parent directory or refresh if root.

Green cursor indicates the “X” menu.

Menu is controlled using joypad as following :

Up : cursor up,

Down: cursor down,

Left shoulder : previous page

Right shoulder : next page

A: enter the directory or add the file to the play queue for multiple disc operations

B: clear queue

C: fast start of current file

P: Play queue

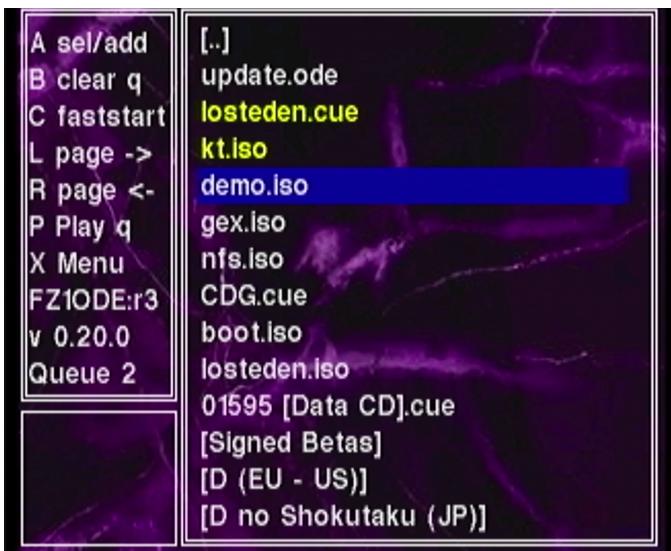
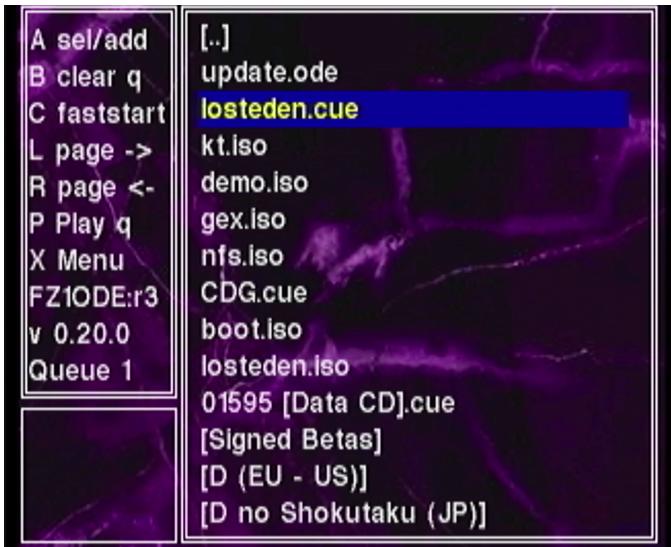
X: **Toggle** the “X” menu. Green cursor indicated the “X” menu.

Important:

Eject: 1 press changes the disc to the next one in the play queue or back to first. If only one disc is in the queue (fast start), the game will simply reset, equivalent to ejecting the disc and inserting it back in.

Double press changes the disc to “boot.iso” and clears the queue, allowing you to return to the menu.

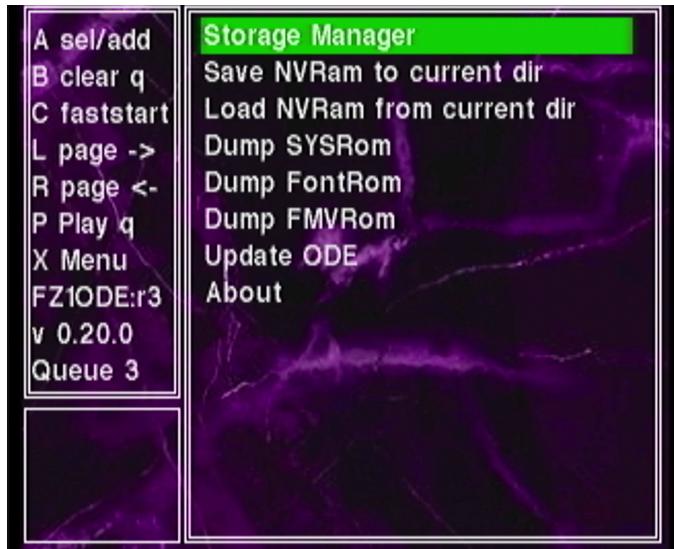
Adding the games to the queue :



Select the game file using up/down. Press **A**. The file will be highlighted yellow, and the queue count on the left pane will increase. There are a maximum of 5 entries to the queue. You can clear the queue by pressing **B**.

Pressing **X** toggles the “X” menu. This is indicated by the green cursor. Selection of the items is done by pressing the “**A**” button.

Storage Manager opens the NVRam file manager.



To exit the storage manager, press “X”

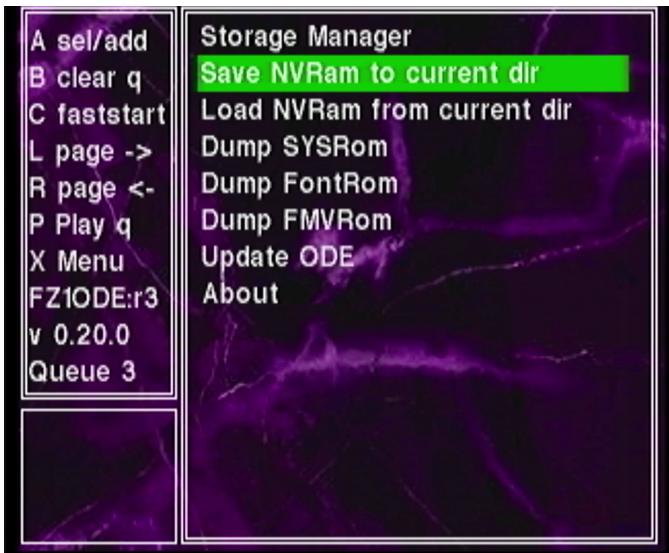


Saving and loading the NVRam:

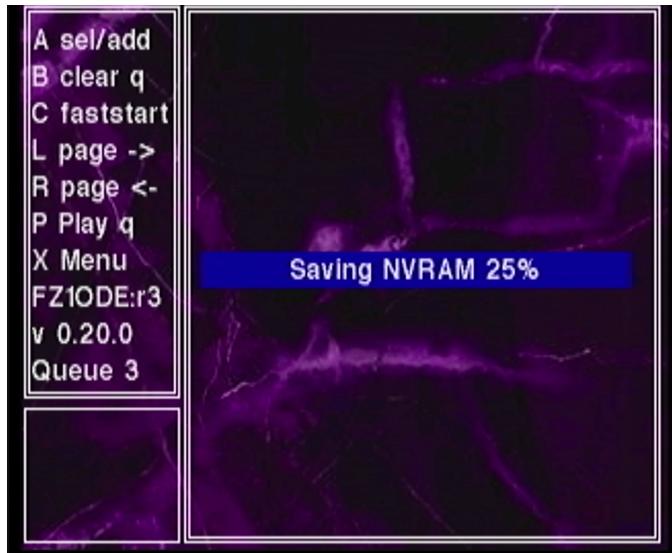
Assuming you're in the desired location, Press “X” to open the X menu.



Navigate to “Save NVRam to current dir” option. And press “A”



The current NVRam content will be saved to the current directory. The progress will be indicated by the following screen. Please avoid powering off the console at this moment, as it may corrupt files on your microSD or USB disks.



After exiting the X menu by pressing the “X” button, you can observe the newly created backup of the nvram:



Updating the ODE firmware:

Current hardware, firmware and menu versions are indicated on the left pane as following:

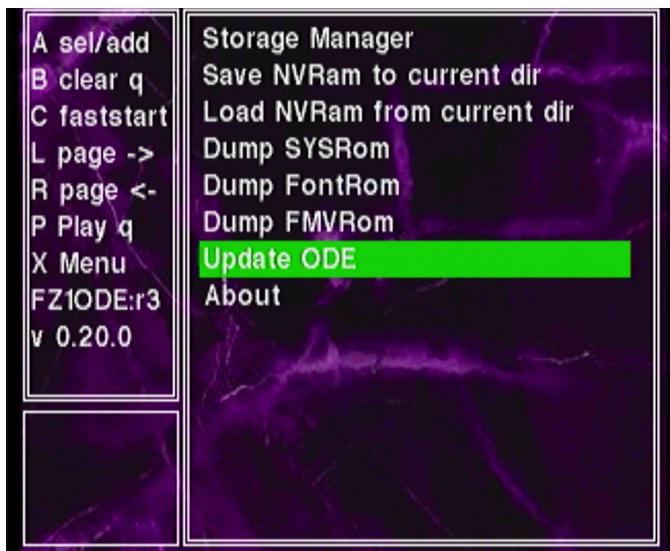
FZ1ODE:r3 = Hardware detected : FZ1ODE. Menu version: r3

V 0.20.0 = Firmware version : 0.20

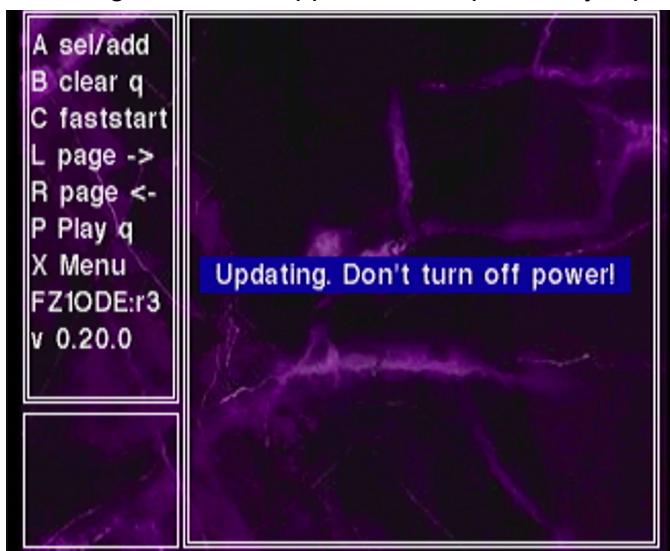
To update the firmware to the latest, download latest “update.ode” file from

<https://github.com/fixelsan/3do-ode-firmware/releases> and place it on the root of your microSD or USB discs.

Navigate to the X menu by pressing the “X” button, select “Update ODE” and activate it by pressing the “A” button.



Following screen will appear, accompanied by rapid flashing of the “ACCESS” led.



Important! Do not interrupt the update by powering off or resetting the console. Doing so may render the ODE inoperative, requiring the recovery procedure. Please reach out to me to fix that.