

INT 13 - Diskette BIOS Services

For more information see the following topics:

[INT 13,0](#) Reset disk system
[INT 13,1](#) Get disk status
[INT 13,2](#) Read disk sectors
[INT 13,3](#) Write disk sectors
[INT 13,4](#) Verify disk sectors
[INT 13,5](#) Format disk track

Most disk BIOS calls use the following parameter scheme:

AH = function request number
AL = number of sectors (1-128 dec.)
CH = cylinder number (0-1023 dec.)
CL = sector number (1-17 dec.)
DH = head number (0-15 dec.)
DL = drive number (0=A:, 1=2nd floppy, 80h=drive 0, 81h=drive 1)
DL = drive number (0=A:, 1=2nd floppy, 80h=C:, 81h=D:)
 Note that some programming references use (0-3) as the
 drive number which represents diskettes only.
ES:BX = address of user buffer

and return with:

CF = 0 if successful
 = 1 if error
AH = status of operation (see INT 13,STATUS)

- INT 13 diskette read functions should be retried at least 3 times to assure the disk motor has time to spin up to speed
- registers DS, BX, CX and DX are preserved
- see [INT 13,STATUS](#)