

# **Minis assembler 0.10**

Programmer's Manual

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## **1 - What is Minis assembler :**

Minis assembler is a small assembler for processor intel 80386 or better, and support almost all instruction of this cpu, this assembler generate 16 or 32 code in one or multiple passes, and by default create flat binary file.

This assembler is used to compile minis operating system.

## **2 - How to use this assembler :**

This assembler compatible with MSDOS 2.0 or better and executed only from command line of MSDOS or any DOS emulators like DosBox.

You can download and install DosBox on many operating systems (windows/linux/android ...).

After installing DosBox check documentation of how to mount folders than mount folder that contain your assembler & source file and type :  
as [ source file name ] [ binary file name ]

for example :

as boot.asm boot.bin

if no error found in source file you will see size of binary file and the output from cmd look like this:

success: 14 bytes.

This message mean the size of binary file is 14 bytes.

If assembler find error durring the compilation process, you will see error message.

for example:

error: invalid label.

line : [5]

This message mean the error is invalid label at line number 5, and of course at source file. to fix this error you must follow rules at chapter ( 3.6- Define labels ).

error: unknown instruction.

line : [13]

This message mean at line number 13 the instruction is not supported by minis assembler or not exist in assembly language.

If you are beginner, check assembly programming tutorials.

### 3 - Assembler syntax :

Minis assembler follow intel syntax .

#### 3.1 - Number syntax :

Numbers can be written in Hexadecimal, decimal or binary.

Hexadecimal must be in UPPERCASE and from 0x00 to 0xFFFFFFFF or you get message : "error: invalid operand."

for example :

0xF3, 0x23FA, 0x0016, 0xFFFFFFFF ; Hexadecimal

10, 54563, 456, 97753689 ; Decimal

10110011b, 00000100b, 1011b ; Binary

#### 3.2 - Instruction syntax :

Minis assembler accept only one instruction at each line followed by line break or comment.

registers :

reg8 : al, cl, dl, bl, ah, ch, dh, bh

reg16 : ax, cx, dx, bx, sp, bp, si, di

reg32 : eax, ecx, edx, ebx, esp, ebp, esi, edi

index : eax, ecx, edx, ebx, esi, edi, bx, si, di

seg : cs, ss, ds, es, fs, gs

cr : cr0, cr2, cr3

ib : immediate byte (1-byte)

imm8 : immediate byte (1-byte)

imm16 : immediate word (2-byte)

imm32 : immediate dword (4-byte)

m8 : memory byte (1-byte)

m16 : memory word (2-byte)

m32 : memory dword (4-byte)

for example :

push es

int 0xF3

mov byte [si], 0x34 ; put immediate value 0x34 into the byte at address (content of register 'si')

mov eax, here ; put address of label (here) into register eax

mov edx, 0x12 ; put immediate value 0x12 into register edx

mov ss, ax ; mov must have same size of registers

mov ebx, eax ; mov must have same size of registers

### 3.3 - Directives :

use16 : set code type 16-bit (real mode)

use32 : set code type 32-bit (protected mode)

times : repeat instruction number of times (max=65535).

binary : include binary file inside source code.

for example :

times 0x05 db 0x00 ; repeat define ( byte 0x00 ) five times.

binary 'icon.bmp'

### 3.4 - Comments :

Any lines start or followed by semicolon (;) is comment lines and the assembler will ignores from semicolon to the end of line during assembling the source code, except to the semicolon (;) found between quote (').

for example :

; I am just comment

int 0xF3 ; call to interrupt 0xF3

### 3.5 - Define data :

To define data use one of this directives (db,dw,dd) followed by one value or more separated with commas, also labels can be used as value (offset of label).

for example :

db 0x00 ; single byte

db 'hello world', 0x00 ; sequence of bytes

dw 0x1015 ; define 2 byte

dd 0xFFFFFFFF ; define 4 byte

this\_address:

db 0x33, this\_address, 0x25 ; label inside define sequence of bytes

pointer\_n01:

dd this\_address ; example of creating pointer

### 3.6 - Define labels :

Label must be alone in line not followed by instruction, and not start with number.

To define label you must use characters from (a) to (z) in lowercase, numbers and underscore (\_), labels must be between 1 to 32 characters, and followed by colon (:).

for example :

label\_number\_12:

start:

\_jmp\_here:

### 3.7 - Jumps :

Unconditional jump :

for example :

```
    jmp here
    nop
here:
jmp 0x1000: word 0x0000 ; 16-bit far jump
jmp 0x8: dword 0x10050 ; 32-bit far jump
jmp bx ; jmp at address in bx register
jmp eax ; jmp at address in eax register
jmp word [bx] ; jmp to memory found at address in bx register
jmp dword [eax] ; jmp to memory found at address in eax register
jmp word [here] ; jmp to memory at offset 'here'
jmp dword [25678] ; jmp to memory address '25678'
```

Conditional jump :

for example :

```
    jc there
    je there
    nop
there:
```

### 3.8 - Calls :

for example :

```
call this_label ; run code at label 'this_label'
; and return here after call instruction
this_label:
mov si, 10
ret
call bx ; call address in bx register
call eax ; call address in eax register
call 0x1000: word 0x0000 ; 16-bit far call
call 0x8: dword 0x10050 ; 32-bit far call
call word [there] ; call near word memory indirect
call dword [there] ; call near dword memory indirect
call word [ebx] ; call near word register indirect
```

### 3.9 - Move data :

The instruction 'mov' used to copy content from the source operand to the destination operand, with operands of the same size (byte,word,dword).

Data movement work like this:

mov destination, source

Minis assembler support only transfer between registers or from immediate value to register, or from immediate value to memory or index registers and imposible from memory to memory.

The operators:

'+,-' can be used with memory, register or number.

'\*' can be used only in scale index base addressing

imm8/imm16/imm32 can be number, label or characters between quote "".

the instruction 'mov reg8, byte [index]' move data at index register (eax, ecx, edx, ebx, esi, edi, bx, si, di) to 8-bit register (al, cl, dl, bl, ah, ch, dh, bh).

whene index register used alone the default segment is data

segment (ds), you can also use segment register with index register.

for example :

mov dl, byte [si] ; this copy one byte of memory at address ds:si to dl register.

mov ax, word [es:bx] ; this copy two bytes of memory at address es:bx to ax register.

mov al, 'A' ; this put character A into al register.

mov eax, dword [esi+1]

mov byte [there], 0x0F ; store immediate byte '0x0f' to memory at address 'there'

mov al, byte [there] ; copy content of memory at address 'there' to al register.

mov ah, byte [there+1] ; copy content of memory at address 'there' + 1 to ah register.

mov byte [ebx+esi\*2], 13 ; scale index base addressing.

To copy data to or from a register use the following rules:

mov reg8, reg8

mov reg8, imm8

mov reg8, byte [index/m8]

mov byte [index/m8], reg8

mov byte [index/m8], imm8

mov reg16, reg16

mov reg16, imm16

mov reg16, word [index/m16]

mov word [index/m16], reg16

mov word [index/m16], imm16

```

mov reg32, reg32
mov reg32, imm32
mov reg32, dword [index/m32]
mov dword [index/m32], reg32
mov dword [index/m32], imm32

```

```

mov seg, reg16
mov reg16, seg
mov cr, reg32
mov reg32, cr

```

### 3.10 - System Instruction :

The instruction 'lgdt' used to load value in operand into the global descriptor table register.

for example :

gdt\_r:

```

    dw 0x17    ; limit (Size of GDT)
    dd 0x1001E ; base of GDT
    ; pword = 6 bytes

```

```

    mov eax, gdt_r
    lgdt pword [eax] ; load GDT into GDTR
    lgdt pword [gdt_r] ; sime as above
    sgdt pword [tmp_memory] ; copies the contents of the GDT register to 6 bytes
memory 'tmp_memory'

```

The instruction 'lidt' used to load value in operand into the interrupt descriptor table register.

for example :

idt\_r:

```

    dw 0xFE    ; limit (Size of IDT)
    dd 0x100F8 ; base of IDT
    ; pword = 6 bytes

```

```

    mov eax, idt_r
    lidt pword [eax] ; load IDT into IDTR
    lidt pword [idtr_r] ; sime as above
    sidt pword [tmp_memory] ; copies the contents of the IDT register to 6 bytes
memory 'tmp_memory'

```



#### **4 - instruction supported :**

aaa  
aad  
aam  
aas  
adc  
add  
and  
arpl  
bound  
bsf/bsr  
bt/btc/btr/bts  
call  
cbw/cwde  
clc  
cld  
cli  
clts  
cmc  
cmp  
cmps/cmpps/cmpps/cmpps  
cwd/cdq  
daa  
das  
dec  
div  
enter  
hlt  
idiv  
imul  
in  
inc  
insb/insw/insd  
int  
int3  
into  
iret/iretd  
ja/jae/jb/jbe/jc/jcxz/jecxz/je/jz/jg/jge/jl/jle/jna/jnae/jnb/jnbe/  
jnc/jne/jng/jnge/jnl/jnle/jno/jnp/jns/jnz/jo/jp/jpe/jpo/js/  
jmp  
lahf  
lar  
lea

leave  
lgdt/lidt  
lgs/lss/lds/les/lfs  
lldt  
lmsw  
lock  
lods/lodsb/lodsw/lodsd  
loop  
lsl  
ltr  
mov  
movs/movsb/movsw/movsd  
movsx  
movzx  
mul  
neg  
nop  
not  
or  
out  
outsb/outsw/outsd  
pop  
popa/popad  
popf  
push  
pusha/pushad  
pushf  
rcl/rcr/rol/ror  
rep/repe/repz/repne/repnz  
ret  
sahf  
sal/sar/shl/shr  
sbb  
scasb/scasw/scasd  
setcc  
sgdt/sidt  
sldt  
smsw  
stc  
std  
sti  
stos/stosb/stosw/stosd  
str  
sub

test  
verr/verw  
wait  
xlatb  
xor