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Batocera Advanced Arcade Emulation



Specifications

- Product Name: Batocera
- Functionality: Advanced arcade emulation
- Compatibility: Works with ROMsets
- Tools: RomVault, RomCenter, ClrMamePro

Cleaning the ROMset:

To clean the ROMset on your Batocera, follow these steps:

1. Use a ROM manager such as RomVault, RomCenter, or ClrMamePro to organize and filter your ROMs.
2. Create custom filters using tools like Arcade Italia's search tool.
3. Export the filtered results in MAME XML format.

Using ROM Managers:

Each ROM manager has its own set of features:

- **RomVault:** Organize ROMs into working sets. Refer to the RomVault Crash Course Guide.
- **RomCenter:** Assign multiple folders and let it organize ROMs. Backup your ROMs before using. Check out the RomCenter Getting Started guide.
- **ClrMamePro:** Configure to use Non-Merged Sets and disable Separate BIOS sets for full set management. Learn more in the ClrMamePro Quick Start Guide.

Using ROM Filterers:

Dedicated filtering tools help remove unwanted files from your ROMset:

- **Arcade manager:** Simple UI-driven filter focused on Recalbox/RetroPie.
- **BestArcade:** Python script for filtering non-merged reference ROMsets.
- **ROMLister:** Tool to filter ROMsets based on defined attributes.

Additional Resources:

For more information and step-by-step guides, visit the BatoceraLinuxx Wiki: Batocera Wiki.

Advanced arcade emulation on Batocera

- If new to arcade emulation, it is recommended to read the arcade guide first before reading this one.
- This section could probably do with an overhaul of its headers.
- Cleaning the ROMset
Oftentimes, ROM sets will include all known releases. You may not have an interest in copying over every known arcade game onto your Batocera.
There are two sorts of tools to help out with this. First, getting a full set in the first place can be made easier with the use of a ROM manager, but it isn't strictly required if you have a full ROM set all ready to go.
- You can create your own custom set of filters using Arcade Italia's search tool. When you're done setting your filters, click Options → Export the results (most managers will accept the MAME XML format).

ROM Managers:

- RomVault: Multi-dat manager. Can consolidate ROMs from any set into any working set. Useful to those who randomly grab ROM files from all over the joint without regard to acquiring full sets.
- RomCenter: A more powerful but slightly more difficult to use multi-data manager. Useful to those who need to maintain multiple sets at once.
- ClrMAMEPro: The big daddy. The "everything and the kitchen sink" approach. It is the hardest to use, but also the most powerful.
- Once you have a full set, use of a filtering tool can remove clones, non-games, non-working, etc., files from the set. Some ROM Managers also include filtering tools, but dedicated filtering tools are usually better.
- ROM filterers:
 - Arcade manager: A simple UI-driven filter. Easiest to use, but it is focused on Recalbox/RetroPie.
 - BestArcade: A Python script focused on filtering down the non-merged reference ROMsets (fbneo, mame2003, mame2003plus and mame2010).
 - ROMLister: A simple tool which filters down a given ROMset based on defined attributes.
 - Step-by-step of how to use these tools. Under construction.

Managers

- RomVault

RomVault. If not able to run, may require the installation of .NET 4.7.2.

- Works by using a simple three-folder system: DatRoot, RomRoot, and ToSort. Put the Roms from an unknown set into the ToSort folder, and RomVault will organise everything it knows (dat files from the DatRoot folder) into the RomRoot folder.
- Crash course on how to use RomVault: https://wiki.romvault.com/doku.php?id=install_and_setup

RomCenter

- RomCenter.
- Each database requires its own data file, but a number of folders can be assigned to it. There is no distinction between unsorted and sorted ROMs; RomCenter will simply attempt to organise the current working ROM folder. For this reason, it is recommended to back up your ROMs first in case RomCenter or your configuration gets it wrong.
- RomCenter Getting Started guide.
ClrMamePro
- To Do

ClrMamePro.

- Crash course on how to use ClrMamePro: <http://mame.3feetunder.com/clrmamepro-quick-start-guide/>
- Just note that you'd want to set the ROMset type to "Non-Merged Sets" and also probably want to click Advanced and turn off Separate BIOS sets (the equivalent of a "full" non-merged set).
- For more in-depth option explanations, refer to the ClrMAMEPro manual.

Filters

- Arcade manager

Arcade manager.

- It was designed for Recalbox and RetroPie, thus it's focused on the low-powered SBCs like Raspberry Pi. Still a pretty useful tool for understanding conceptually what's going on and a very good filter.

BestArcade

- BestArcade.
Requires a non-merged set. Acts as a filter that uses a smart score system to decide which ROMs to keep when there are multiple matches for a single game. Somewhat simple to use, but it does require Python.

ROMLister

- ROMLister.
- To Do
- This tool is no longer maintained.

All the arcade emulators on Batocera

Too many columns. Information is not accurate. For the actual information here, can it be merged with the table in the regular guide?

Arcade emulator	Alternative name	Rom set	Roms folder	Default on hardware	Purpose	Extras	Notes
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Arcade emulator	Alternative name	Rom set	Roms folder	Default on hardware	Purpose	Extras	Notes
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MAME (standalone)	Mame	Latest	mame	PC	All arcade hardware	highscores, samples, overlays	The latest and greatest, usually the hardest to run
libretro/mame	Mame	Latest	mame	PC	All arcade hardware	highscores, samples, overlays	Batocera for PC is shipped with the latest stable MAME version available at the time of release, see the table up there.
libretro/imame4all	iMame4All	0.37b5	mame	RPi0 (<v30)	All arcade hardware	highscores, samples, overlays	Very old version, good for lower devices like pi0, but not many games are supported.

libretro/mame0139	Mame2010	0.139	mame	PC	All arcade hardware	highscores, samples, overlays	Good core for medium-powerful boards like Pi 3
libretro/mame078plus	Mame2003Plus	0.78+	mame	PC	All arcade hardware	highscores, samples, overlays	Good port for less powerful boards with back porting of more recent developments. Romset is a bit specific, it's not the same as standard 0.78

libretro/fbneo	Final Burn Neo	Latest	fbneo	All	All 2D arcade hardware	highscores	<p>1.0.0.X</p> <p>Romset is always evolving; it is mostly based on MAME</p> <p>0.187 romset, but some ROMs are different</p>
libretro/neogeo	Neo Geo	Latest	fbneo	All	All 2D arcade hardware	highscores	<p>can also set to use MAME emulators, but FB Neo is the recommended way to go</p>

Arcade emulator	Alternative name	Rom set	Roms folder	Default on hardware	Purpose	Extras	Notes
-----------------	------------------	---------	-------------	---------------------	---------	--------	-------

libretro/flycast	Flycast	Latest	atomis wave	All	Atomis wave arcade hardware	AtomisWave ROMs can be picked from the latest MAME ROM set.
libretro/flycast	Flycast	Latest	naomi	All	Naomi arcade hardware	NaomROMs and CHD can be picked from the latest MAME ROM set.
Hypseus	Daphne	Specific	daphne	All	Daphne arcade hardware	Emulator for laserdisc arcade games like Dragon's Lair, uses a very specific non-MAME-based romset.

libretro/fbalpha 2012	Final Burn Alpha	FB Alpha 0.2.9 7.29	fbneo / neogeo	RPi0 (> v31)	All 2D arcade hardware	An emulator that performs well on low-power boards. RetroPie's excellent page on it (note we aren't using the same romset version).
libretro/dice	DICE	DICE v0.3.0	dice	All	Arcade hardware with no CPU	Emulator for early machines with no CPU

NeoGeo system

- The NeoGeo system is not an emulator itself, but uses the FBNeo emulator. (



- Why do we have this? This doesn't work like this for any other system. This section is also confusing. Are we no longer defining systems by their folder? Are settings retained from the general mame and fbneo folder?)
- You can use this system to visually separate the NeoGeo games from the other arcade games; they will appear as a dedicated system in EmulationStation.

- It uses the same romset as the FBNeo emulator.

Setting a Rotary Joystick with libretro mame2003plus

If you have a special stick like the Happ Rotary Arcadee you need to configure both the joystick and the keyboard at the same time:

```
Dial : AZERTY keyboard: "^" (between "P" and "Enter") -- QWERTY keyboard:
 "[" (leftbracket)
Dial : AZERTY keyboard: "$" (between "P" and "Enter") -- QWERTY keyboard:
 "]" (rightbracket)
Dial 2 : AZERTY keyboard: "*" (between "m" and "Enter") -- QWERTY keyboard:
 "/" (slash)
Dial 2 : AZERTY keyboard: "!" (between "m" and Right) -- QWERTY keyboard:
 "\" (backslash)
```

You must launch your game, open the oetroarch menu with Hotkey + B, go to Input Interface, and activate the option Simultaneous. Then you can use your joystick and keyboard keys at the same time.

Highscores

High scores can be tracked and kept through the use of `highscore.dat`, which must be in the right version for each emulator/emulator version. They can be found or must be placed here :


- For FBNeo: /userdata/bios/fbneo
- For mame2003plus : /userdata/saves/mame/mame2003-plus/hi
- For mame2010: /userdata/saves/mame/mame2010/hi
- For mame: see temporary solution in the following post

Configuration menus

This is the per-game menu for accessing the machine's advanced configuratio, such as its dip switches, service mode,d e and diagnostic input.



FB Neo's one is actually for the game's service menu, which not all games have.

Per-game dipswitch configuration can be accessed via RetroArch's Quick Menu. While in-game, press [HOTKEY] + , then go to **Options** → **Dip switch settings**.



For FB NEO, the default combo is [START] + [L1] + [R1] (old versions (what older versions? Be specific): Hold [START])

```
7. CONFIGURATION MENU

* 1. SYSTEM
  2. GAME
  3. DEFAULT
  4. SAVE & EXIT

SELECT = IP UP or DOWN
START = IP SHOT1

7-1. SYSTEM CONFIGURATION

* 1. COIN MODE    1 COIN  1 CREDIT
  2. CHUTE TYPE  2 PLAYERS 1 CHUTE  SINGLE
  3. CONTINUE    ON
  4. MONITOR     NORMAL
  5. DEMO SOUND  ON
  6. SOUND MODE  STEREO (0 SOUND)
  7. EXIT

SELECT OPTION = IP UP or DOWN
MODIFY SETTING = IP LEFT or RIGHT
                = IP SHOT1 or SHOT2

7. CONFIGURATION MENU

  1. SYSTEM
*  2. GAME
  3. DEFAULT
  4. SAVE & EXIT

SELECT = IP UP or DOWN
START = IP SHOT1


7-2. GAME CONFIGURATION

* 1. DIFFICULTY  EASY <---4---> HARD
  2. EXIT

SELECT OPTION = IP UP or DOWN
MODIFY SETTING = IP LEFT or RIGHT
                = IP SHOT1 or SHOT2
```





For MAME, the default combo is pushing in [L3] + [R3] (old versions (what older

versions?  Be specific. I also don't think this was even removed, ie, you can still press Tab on the keyboard to access the dip switch menu): [Tab] on the keyboard)









For NEOGEO:

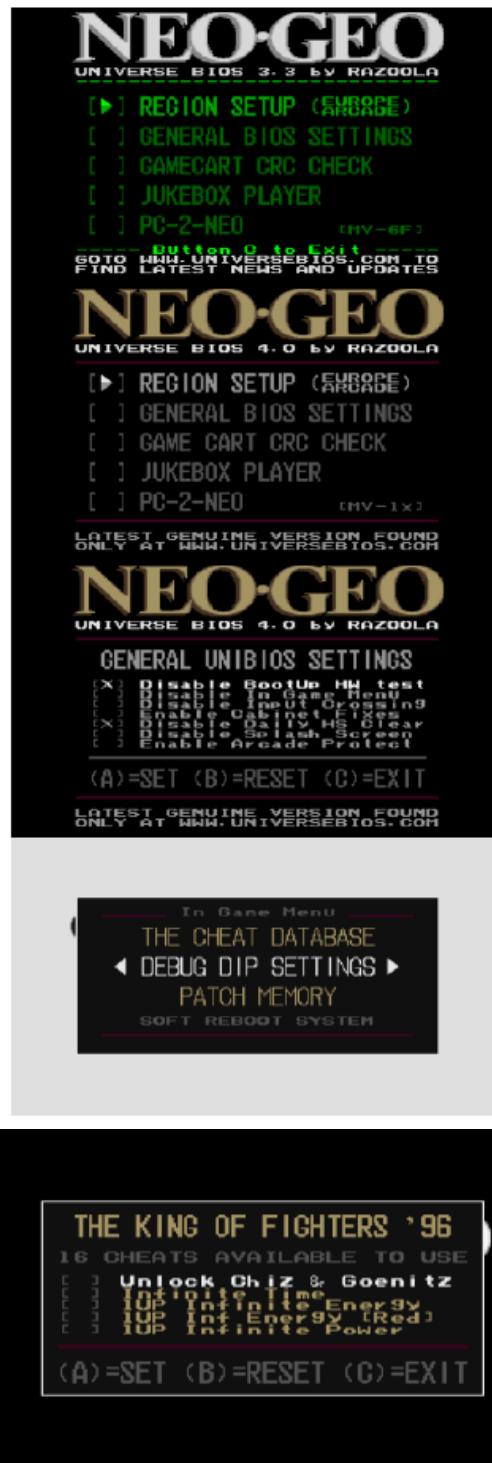
Is this actually the per-game service menu and not the dip switch settings provided by the core?

For the default  **Fix Me!** (factory?) NEOGEO BIOS, the default combo is [START] + [L1] + [R1] (old versions  **Fix Me!** (what older versions? Be specific): Hold [START])


For the universal BIOS:


At the boot screen, the default combo is holding down  +  + 

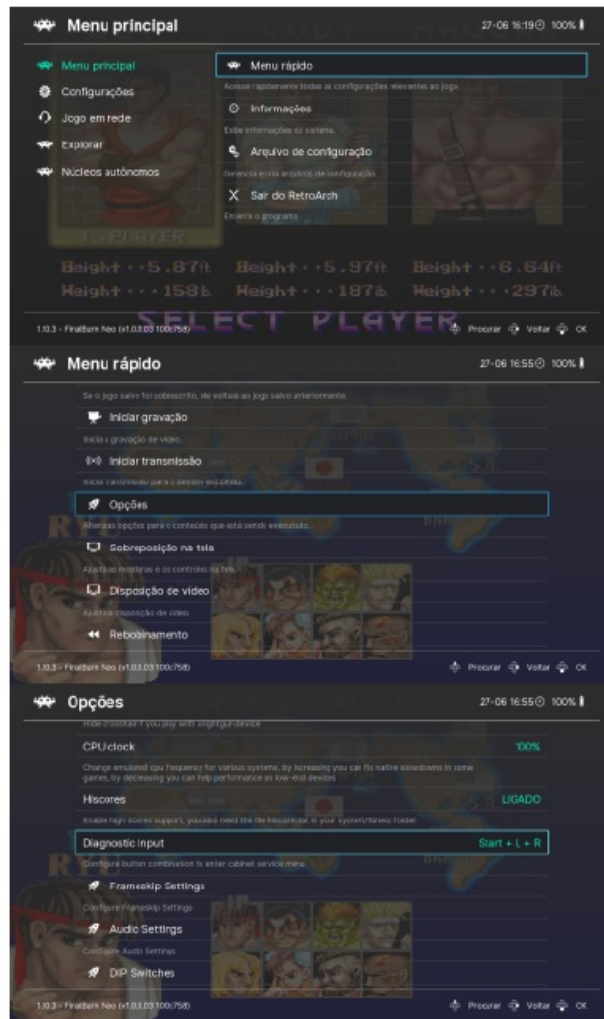
During gameplay, the default combo is holding down [START] + [SELECT] or holding down [START] +  +  + 




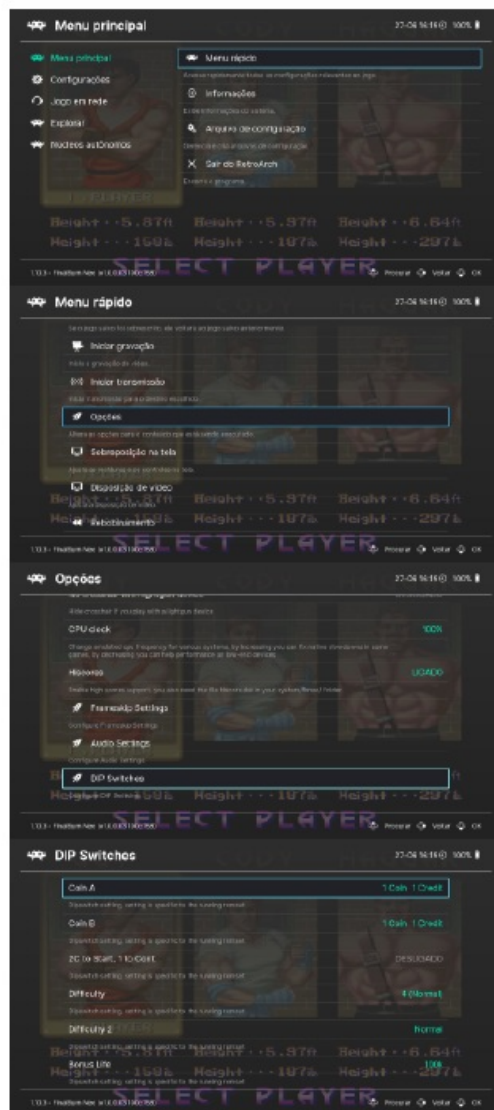
Set up a new shortcut via RetroArch:

[HOTKEY] +  → Quick Access → Options → Diagnostic Input

[HOTKEY] +  → Quick Access → Options → Diagnostic Input




Setup DIP Switches via RetroArch: [HOTKEY] +  → Quick Access → Options → Dip Switches



Setup NEO-GEO BIOS via RetroArch:



[HOTKEY] +  → Quick Access → Options → SPECIFIC NEO GEO BIOS → UNIBIOS
or SPECIFIC BY DIP SWITCHES (UNIBIOS)

Menu principal

Configurações

Jogo em rede

Explorar

Núcleos autônomos

1. PLAYER

Beight+ + 5.87ft

Meight+ + 158lb

2. PLAYER

Beight+ + 5.97ft

Meight+ + 187lb

3. PLAYER

Beight+ + 6.64ft

Meight+ + 297lb

1.0.3 - FinalBurn Neo (v1.0.3.03 100/780)

Procurar

Voltar

OK

Menu rápido

Informações

Arquivo de configuração

Sair do RetroArch

1. PLAYER

Beight+ + 5.87ft

Meight+ + 158lb

2. PLAYER

Beight+ + 5.97ft

Meight+ + 187lb

3. PLAYER

Beight+ + 6.64ft

Meight+ + 297lb

1.0.3 - FinalBurn Neo (v1.0.3.03 100/780)

Procurar

Voltar

OK

Opções

Iniciar gravação

Iniciar transmissão

Opções

Sobreposição na tela

Disposição de vídeo

Rebotalamento

1. PLAYER

Beight+ + 5.87ft

Meight+ + 158lb

2. PLAYER

Beight+ + 5.97ft

Meight+ + 187lb

3. PLAYER

Beight+ + 6.64ft

Meight+ + 297lb

1.0.3 - FinalBurn Neo (v1.0.3.03 100/780)

Procurar

Voltar

OK

Opções

CPUclock

Diagnostic input

Neo-Geo Settings

Framebuffer Settings

Audio Settings

DIP Switches

1.0.3 - FinalBurn Neo (v1.0.3.03 100/780)

Procurar

Voltar

OK

Neo-Geo Settings

Neo-Geo node

Memory card mode

Debug Dip 1.1

Debug Dip 1.2

Debug Dip 1.3

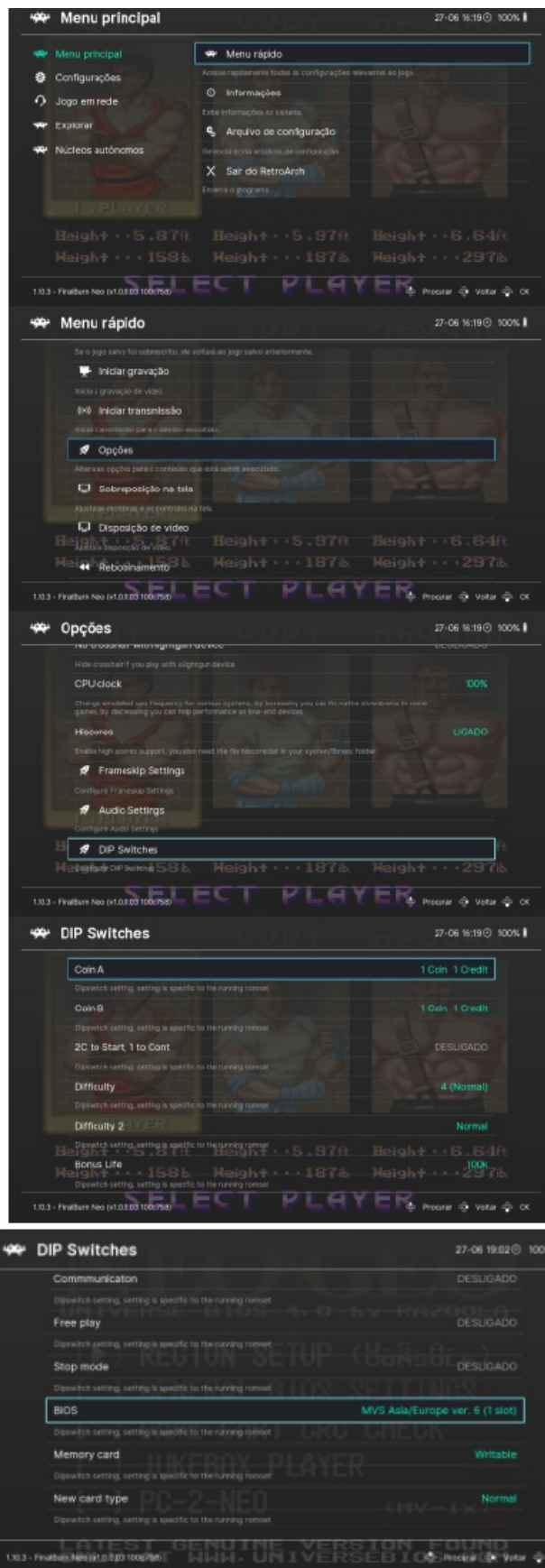
Debug Dip 1.4

1.0.3 - FinalBurn Neo (v1.0.3.03 100/780)

Procurar

Voltar

OK



Not all games have a dip switch menu, and may crash when using these commands.

Here you can change the number of players, get more lives, switch to arcade or console mode, set up subtitles, or even activate the free mode!

Options available (Defaults)



- Diagnostic Input (shortcut combination):
 - None
 - Hold Start
 - Start + A + B
 - Hold Start + A + B pstart + L + R (Default) Hold Start + L + R Hold Select
 - Select + A + B
 - Hold Select + A + B Select + L + R
 - Hold Select + L + R
- DIP Switches (settings) – may differ from game to game:
 - Autofire: Off* or On
 - Coin Mode: Mode 1*, Mode 2
 - Coin A / Coin B | Coinage | Coin setting: 4 Coins 3 Credit, 2 Coins 1 Credit, 1 Coin 1 Credit*, 1 Coin 2 Credits, 1 Coin 3 Credits, 1 Coin 4 Credits, 1 Coin 6 Credits, Free to Play
 - 2C to Start, 1 to Continue: Yes or No* | Starting Coin: Normal, 2x
 - Difficulty: 1 (Easiest), 2, 3, 4 (Normal)*, 5, 6, 7, 8 (Hardest)
 - Difficulty 2: Easy, Normal*, Hard, Hardest
 - Bonus Life: 100K*, 200K, 100K, and every 200K, None
 - Number of Players: 1, 2*, 3, 4
 - Change Lives: 1, 2*, 3, 4, 5
 - Free to play: Yes or No*
 - Freeze: : Yes or No*
 - Flip: Yes or No*
 - Demo Sound | Attractive: Yes* or No
 - Allow Continue: Yes* or No
 - Game Mode: Game* or Test
 - Sound Output: Mono or Stereo
 - Unknown: Off* or On
 - Region: Europe, USA, or Japan
 - Mode: ARCADE or CONSOLE-AES
 - Subtitles: English, Japanese, Korean, or Portuguese Jukebox

MAME=standalone input remap files

For libretro MAME, it is recommended to use RetroArch's remapping instead.

In MAME standalone, machines can be remapped using the built-in MAME menu.

1. Launch the machine in question.
2. While in-game, push in xiPz + xoPz at the same time (keyboard alternative: [Tab]) to open the MAME menu
3. Go to "Input for this game"

Press  (keyboard alternative: xbntr]) to confirm. Inputs can be cleared by double-tapping  /[Enter] while hovering over the input.

Remap configuration files are stored at \userdata\saves\mame\mame\cfg\. More info at the remapping page.

Automatic Controller Mapping

Standalone MAME and libretro/MAME have options to automatically map the controls for certain games and controller types. For more information, see Automatic Controller Layouts.

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FAQs


: Do I need to use all the ROM managers and filterers mentioned?

No, you can choose the tools based on your requirements. It is recommended to start with one and then explore others if needed.

Can I use Batocera for other types of emulation?

: Batocera primarily focuses on advanced arcade emulation, but it may support other types of emulation as well. Check the official documentation for more details.

Documents / Resources

	Batocera Advanced Arcade Emulation [pdf] User Manual Advanced Arcade Emulation, Advanced Arcade Emulation, Arcade Emulation, Emulation
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References

- [User Manual](#)

Advanced Arcade Emulation, Arcade Emulation, BATOCERA, BATOCERA Emulation

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