

Project D.I.R.E.

Special Thanks to the following individuals for their dedication and hard work.
Without them this project would not be possible.

znxDomain -> firmware unlocker, tester, researcher

**Lucky.peic -> firmware gui editor, tester, prototype,
initial writeups, researcher**

**B47M4N -> firmware gui editor, tester, pcb and case
creator, researcher, user guide writer**

Bowman -> alt firmware, prototype tester

Mystic -> supplied test files, tester

Obiima -> original designer and firmware creator

(Obiima was not part of the team who released this project, Only the Original author and creator of the private emulator
never released.)

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In short: Enjoy the game! Don't be a prick and charge someone to use or build this free software.

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1. Purpose and Scope

The purpose of this document is to functionally explain and use project D.I.R.E.

The document covers creating and usage of hardware, software, firmware, and 3D printed files.

2. Abbreviations

| | |
|----------|------------------------------------|
| D.I.R.E. | Disney Infinity Reverse Engineered |
| STM32 | STM32 Bluepill |
| BOM | Build of Materials |

3. Summary

Project D.I.R.E. (Disney Infinity Reverse Engineered) is a portal emulator for Disney Infinity, Lego Dimensions, and Skylanders. This replaces the original portal in place of a custom created one to inject your own character dumps without the need for the original characters, vehicles, or playsets.

This emulator originally started several years ago after a talented coder named obiima did not release his project to the public. Obiima created and demoed a console portal emulator for 3 games: Disney Infinity, Lego Dimensions, and Skylanders. Obiima never released his project into the wild and the project he did release privately was closed firmware meaning locked to the stm32 Bluepill. This project picks up where he left off.

The Firmware allows this device to select between games by holding one of the buttons during boot. You have the option of using limited onboard memory or by using an SD card you can increase the character count in your base emulator. By adding your own character files known as bin files, you can inject them into the game without having to keep your original characters.

This emulator currently works on the Wii, Wii U, PS3, and PS4.

I CAN NOT confirm if this works on the PS5 or Nintendo Switch as I do not own the consoles to test with.

I have been told Skylanders plays on the Nintendo Switch but does NOT use the Portal of Power. I have also seen footage of Disney Infinity being played on a PS5.

XBOX 360 and XBOX One are Not Yet included in this release. There is a security chip required from an Activision portal to make this work and we have not yet discovered a simple method to allow these games to work on these specific consoles.

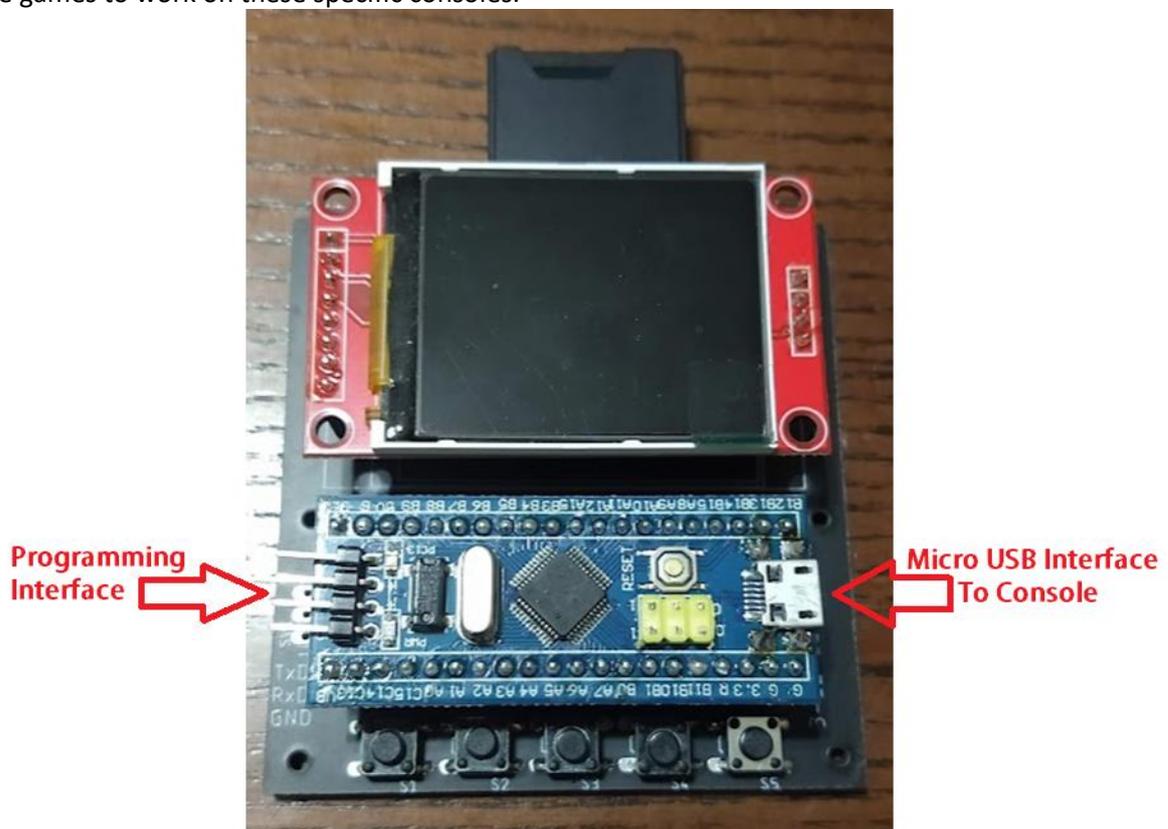


Figure 1: The Soldered Emulator

3.1. BOM

| Item | Quantity |
|--|--|
| STM32 Bluepill *Some of the STM32 Bluepill come pre soldered with headers | 1 *To fit in the provided 3D case files, please remove Boot 0/1 Headers |
| ST-Link V2 *Usually comes with 4 Female to Female jumpers for programming | 1 |
| Male Headers *Solder 40 to the STM32 Bluepill **Solder 12 to the LCD with SD Card Reader ***Solder the other end of the 52 to the custom PCB | 52 |
| LCD with Card Reader * Some of the LCDs come pre soldered with headers | 1 |
| Memory Card – 128Mb to 2Gb *Unless Following Section 8 to increase size limitation. | 1 |
| Custom PCB *All Files included in zip to get these printed – 2 sided board, all through hole, black color is nice and the silkscreen comes out perfectly readable | 1 |
| Tactile Push Buttons | 5 |
| Micro USB Cable | 1 |
| 3D printed Case Bottom | *Optional, but nice to have |
| 3D printed Case Top | *Optional Open finger or Closed top type (peg buttons included) |
| Screws to hold the case are #8-32 x 1/2in or 12mm length 4mm diameter | *4 – only required if using the 3D printed case |

4. Building Your Emulator and Hardware You Need

4.1. STM32 Bluepill

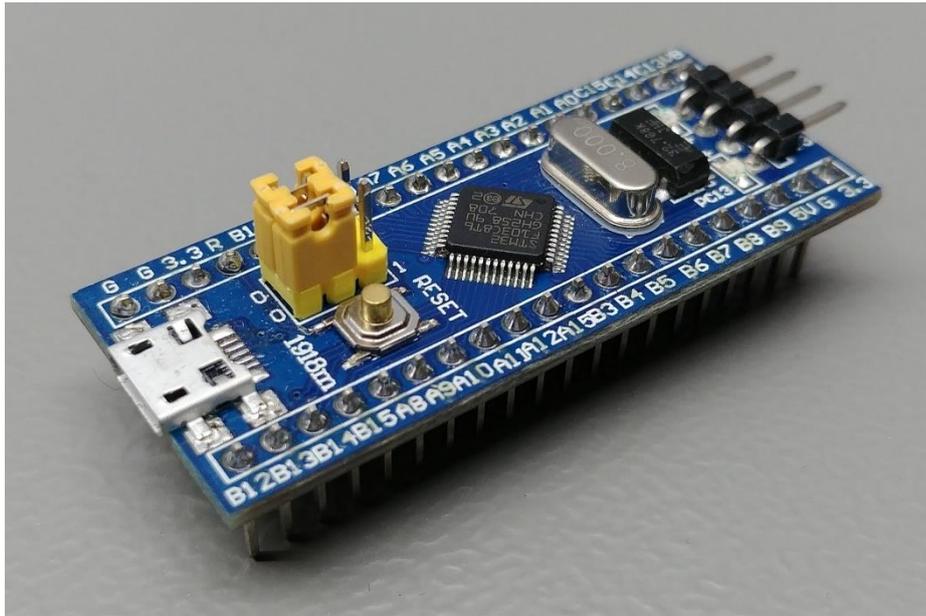


Figure 2: STM32 Bluepill – Brains of the emulator

NOTE: some come with headers soldered, some do not MAKE SURE headers are included

4.2. ST-Link V2



Figure 3: ST-LINK V2 - programming the Bluepill

4.3. LCD with SD Card Reader

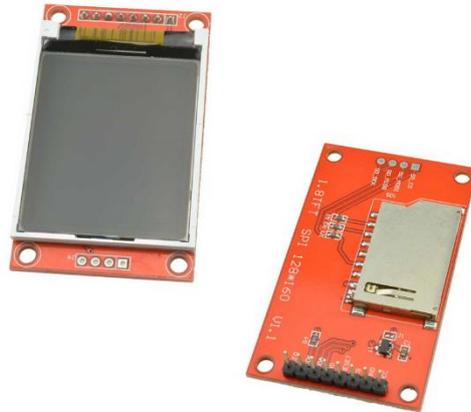


Figure 4: LCD with SD Card Reader

4.4. Custom PCB



Figure 5: Custom Project D.I.R.E. PCB without need of breadboard

NOTE: Everything here is through hole soldering – If your LCD and STM32 don't come with headers presoldered you are looking at 124 Soldering joints, if they are soldered, only 72 soldering joints.

4.5. Soldering Iron



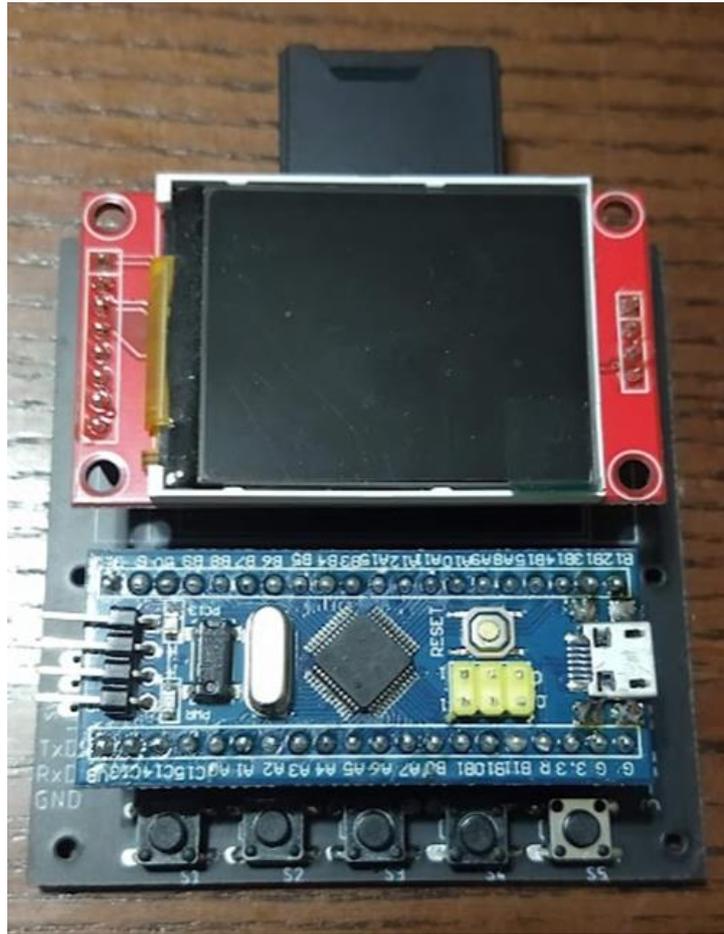
Figure 6: Any Soldering iron will most likely work

4.6. Push Buttons



Figure 7: 5 push buttons one for each place on the PCB (6mm x 6mm x 5mm)

4.7. Fully Assembled PCB



*Figure 8: Fully Assembled PCB with Boot 0/1 Headers
Note: To fit in the provided 3D case, please remove Boot 0/1 Headers*

5. Button Usage

The emulator makes use of the 5 buttons:

| | Comments / Specifications |
|-------------------------------|--|
| 1. Left | Move Left within menu |
| 2. Right | Move Right within menu |
| 3. Select | Select place on portal [-] no choice or < - > choice |
| 4. Clear | Clear selection |
| 5. Settings | Changing the orientation and or type of LCD |
| Hold Left upon power on | Start in the Disney Infinity Portal Mode (Default mode) |
| Hold Right upon power on | Start in the LEGO Dimensions Portal mode |
| Hold Select upon power on | Start in the Skylanders Portal mode |
| Hold Left + Settings Button | Set Default Start up Disney Infinity Portal |
| Hold Right + Settings Button | Set Default Start up LEGO Dimensions Portal |
| Hold Select + Settings Button | Set Default Start up Skylanders Portal |

Figure 9: Default Mode does not require holding a button down on start up



Figure 10: Usage - Elsa Selected from emulator, Level and experience Recorded



Figure 11: Usage In Game - Elsa Selected from emulator, Level and experience Recorded

5.1. Emulator Screen Slots



Figure 12: LEFT - Disney Infinity & Lego Dimensions, RIGHT – Skylanders

| Function | | | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------|---|------------|--------------------|
| SLOT | Disney Infinity | Lego Dimensions | SLOT | Skylanders |
| C – Center C [1] | Playset | Vehicle Placement for building or character | [1] | Level or Character |
| C – Center C [2] | Hex disc Customization | Vehicle Placement for building or character | [2] | Level or Character |
| C – Center C [3] | Hex disc Customization | Vehicle Placement for building or character | [3] | Level or Character |
| L – Left L [1] | Character | Character or vehicle | [4] | Level or Character |
| L – Left L [2] | Ability or Costume | Character or vehicle | [5] | Level or Character |
| L – Left L [3] | Ability or Costume | Character or vehicle | [6] | Level or Character |
| R – Right R [1] | Character | Character or vehicle | | |
| R – Right R [2] | Ability or Costume | Character or vehicle | | |
| R – Right R [3] | Ability or Costume | Character or vehicle | | |

Figure 13: Emulator Slot Usage

6. Software and Process

6.1. ST-LINK

Step 6.1 - Download and install the "STM32 ST-LINK Utility" software.

Step 6.2 - Download the "stlink_flash_firmware.bat" file.

Step 6.3 - Unplug the USB cable from the STM32 board.

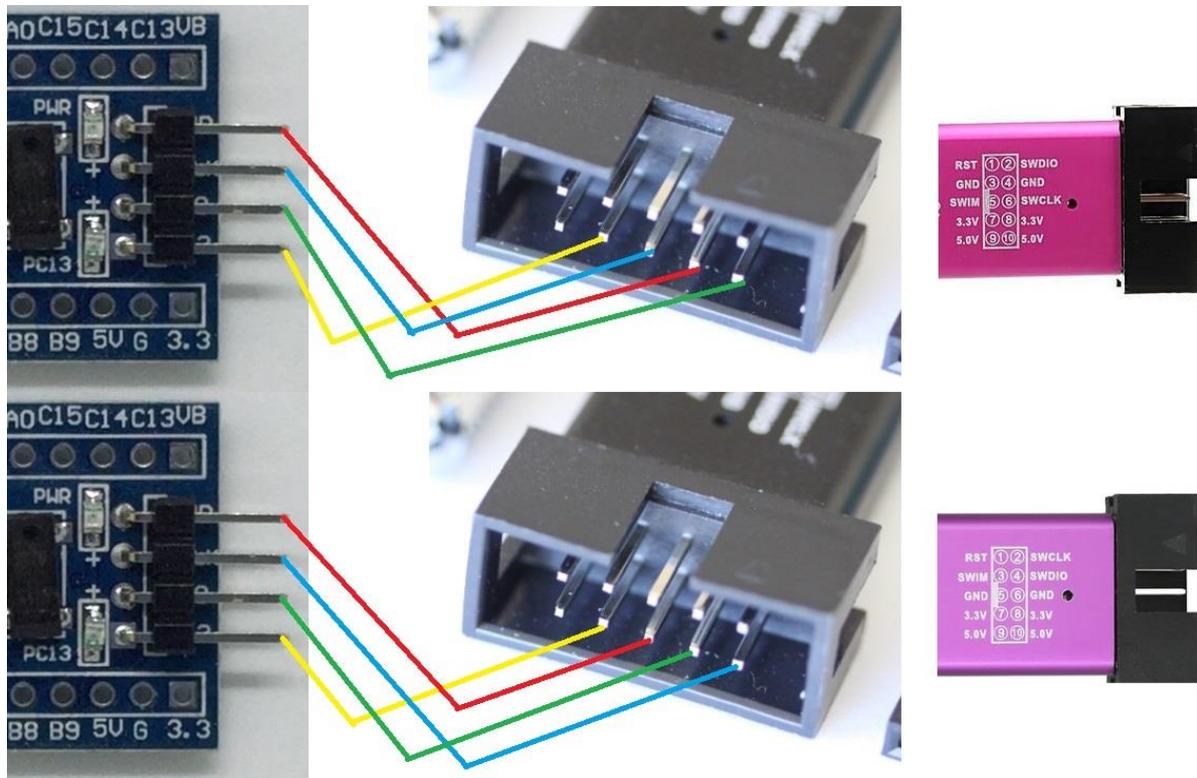
Step 6.4 - Connect the ST-LINK adapter to the STM32 board (see Figure 14).

Step 6.5 - Connect the ST-LINK USB adapter to your PC.

Step 6.6 - Download and extract a compatible firmware (included in the zip).

Step 6.7 - Drag the firmware .bin file and drop it on the "stlink_flash_firmware.bat" (see Figure 15)

The firmware is loaded initially onto the Bluepill via the ST-Link USB dongle and the use of a batch file. To update or change your firmware on the STM32 simply connect your ST-Link USB to your computer and use the included 4 female wires to connect to your 4 pins on the STM32 following the diagram below.



To use the Bank Editor ensure your STM32 is plugged in via USB micro and click Device
There are a few options: File, Device, and Help.

File opens your backed up bin files.

Device Loads the banks on the internal or external memory.

Device -> Format allows you to format internal or external memory.



Figure 17: File Menu



Figure 18: Device Menu

File opens your backed up bin files.

Device Loads the banks on the internal or external memory.

Device -> Format allows you to format internal or external memory.

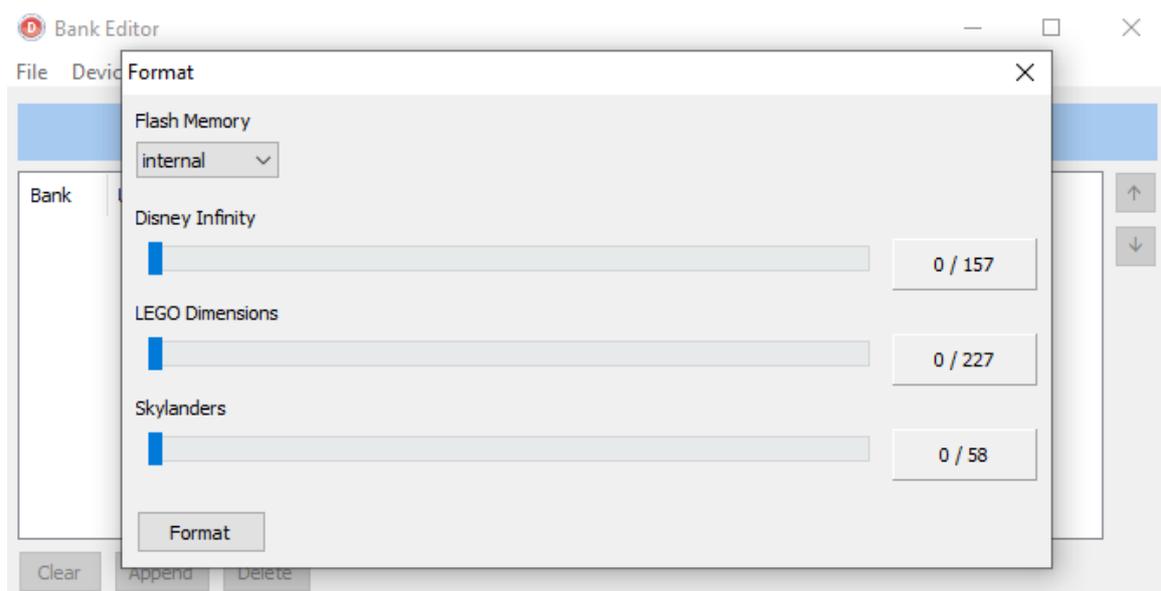


Figure 19: Internal Memory Format

Note: Internal memory slots are shared among all the banks

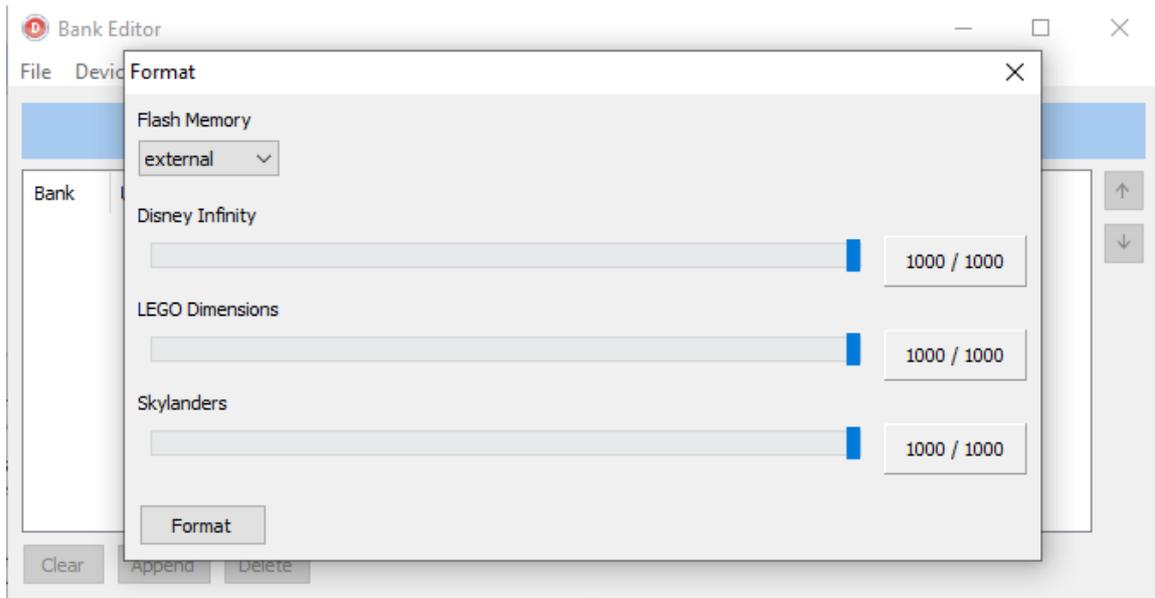


Figure 20: External Memory Format (SD Card)
Note: External memory slots are NOT shared among all the banks

After clicking on Format, you then click the Device button and load banks. Select your banks Disney Infinity, Lego Dimensions, or Skylanders then click OK.

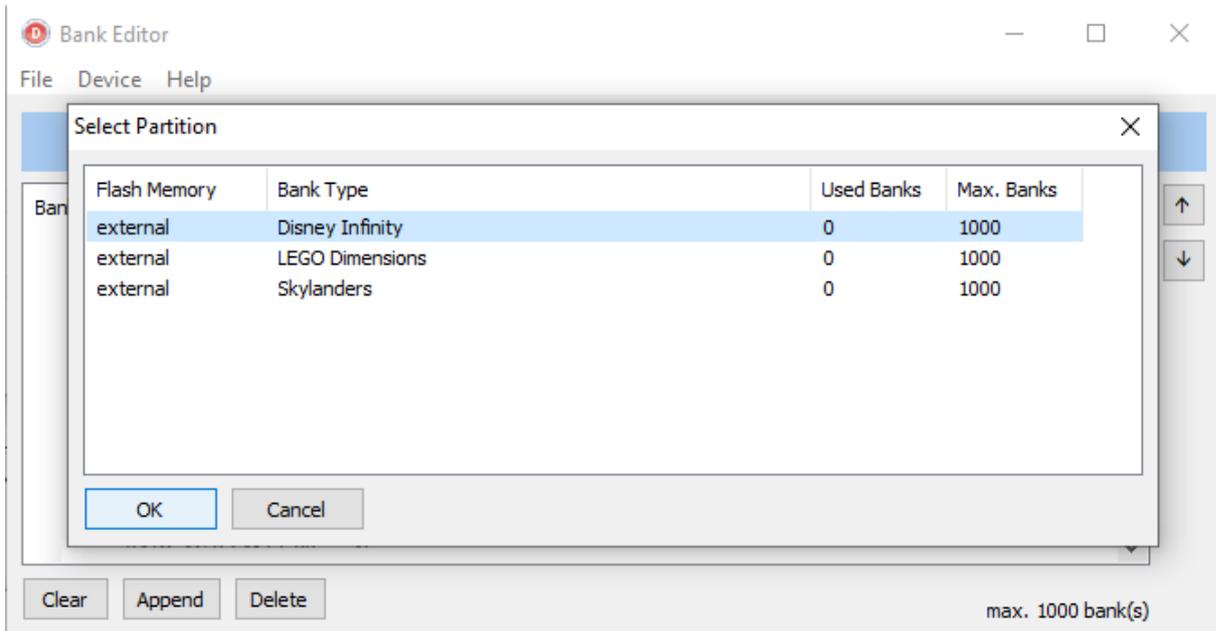


Figure 21: Select Your Bank, and click OK

Click Append
 Select your own bin file dumped files.
 Click Device and Save banks...

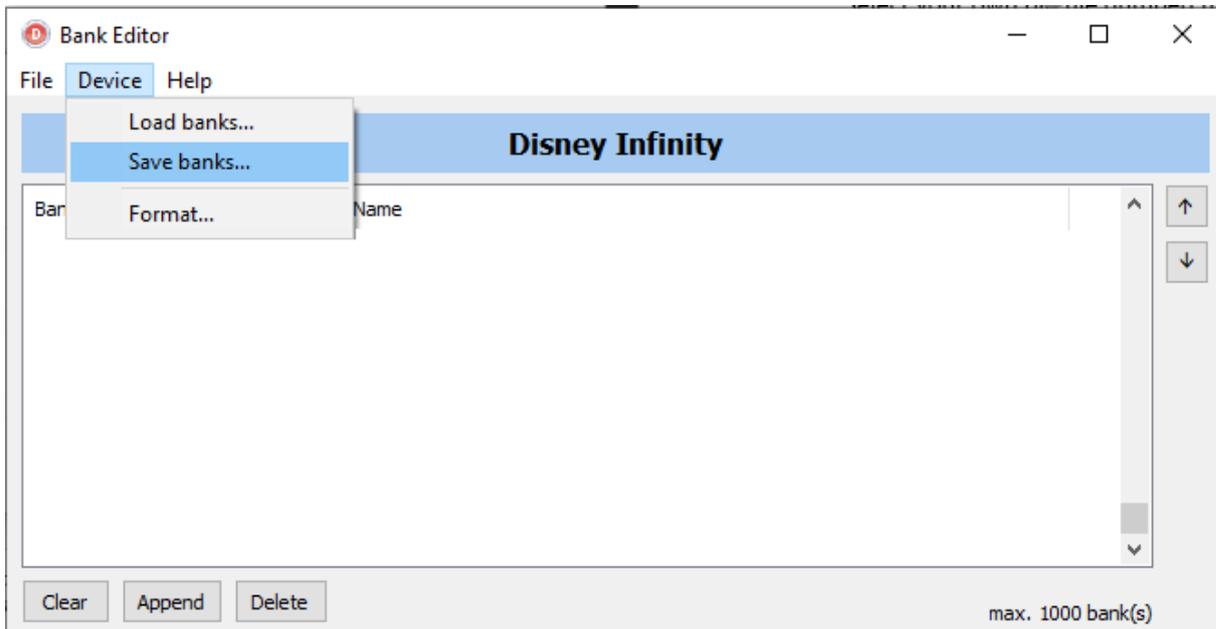


Figure 22: Save Banks

You're all set to play your game with your backed up characters.

7. Case

Many iterations were created, but only the two were good enough to present to you.

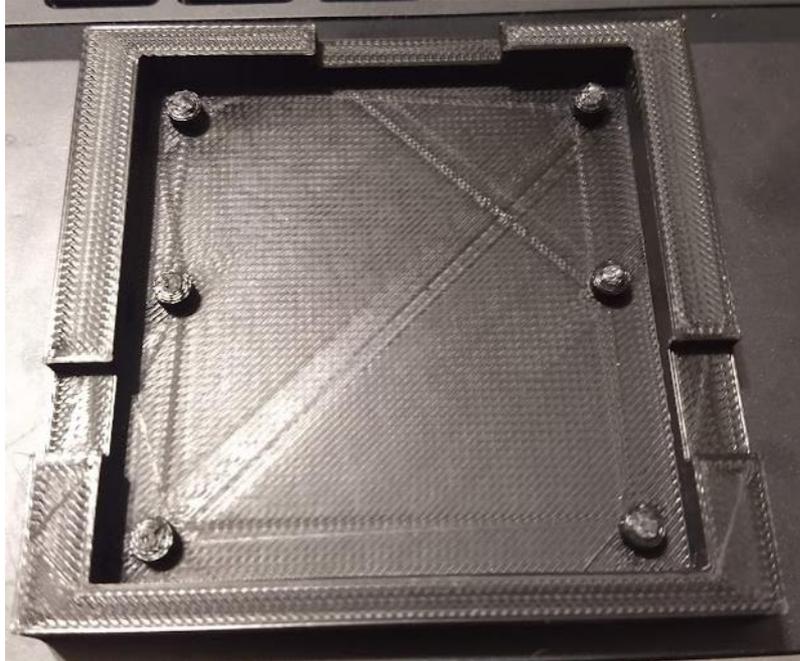


Figure 23: The Base - Your board fits recessed inside this



Figure 24: The Open Frame Case

NOTE: 4 Screws to hold the case are #8-32 x 1/2in or 12mm length 4mm diameter



Figure 25: The Enclosed Top Button Case

NOTE: 4 Screws to hold the case are #8-32 x 1/2in or 12mm length 4mm diameter

8. EXTRA

There is a software limitation on the Bank Editor, this will ONLY ALLOW 128Mb to 2Gb cards to be used. Most of us don't have those sizes of memory cards lying around.

To fix this problem, you can take a blank 128mb.raw image provided in the downloaded bundle and can use this in conjunction with etcher to write to any size sd card.

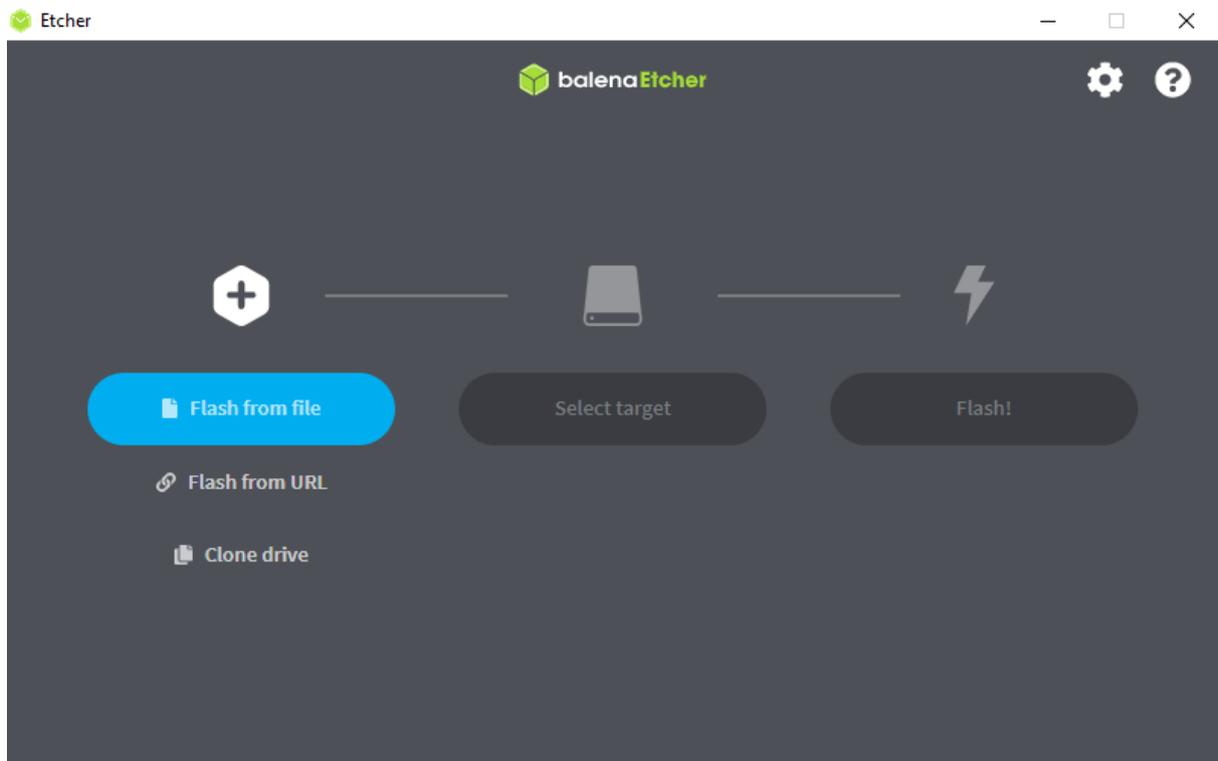


Figure 26: Etcher

Select Flash from File, Select your 128mb.raw file.

Select the SD card target

Click Flash!

Now insert your SD card into your emulator and continue onto section 6.2.

Appendices

Appendix A – Software Tools

The software tools used for Testing can be found in the following table:

| General Software | |
|---|--|
| Tool | Comments |
| ST Link Utility | The Utility is used to upload firmware to the STM32 |
| Bank Editor V6 | As far as we know, Created by Obiima – Used to upload your bin file backups onto the SD card or internal memory. |
| Etcher v1.5.121 | Used to write raw 128mb.raw to sd card |
| Firmware | |
| Tool | Comments |
| unlocked-firmware.bin | Originally Released by Obiima, unlock patched by znxDomain, gui edited by B47M4N and Lucky.peic |
| Ghidra | Used to Reverse Engineer the lockout |
| Case | |
| Tool | Comments |
| Solidworks | Created and edited by B47M4N |
| Ultimaker | Used to print the case parts |
| | |
| | |
| PCB | |
| Tool | Comments |
| Eagle PCB | Used to layout the PCB |
| JLPCB | Purchased usable boards |
| | |
| References | |
| Tool | Comments |
| https://nfc.toys/ | References to list how backups of your own toys are created using your own tools. |
| | |
| | |