

Multi-Item Edit

v5.5

For iTunes 11+/macOS 10.12+
Find more free AppleScripts
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at Doug's AppleScripts for iTunes.

This applet will allow you to view and edit most track tags and options in a single window which emulates the pre-iTunes 12 "multiple item" format; that is, a checkbox adjacent to each tag allows you to select which changes can be applied to the selection's tags.

For macOS 10.12 and later only.

This app is free to try full-featured for 10 days. If you like it you can purchase a code for \$1.99 which will unlock the 10 day trial restriction. Launch the app and click "Register..." in its File menu to make an in-app purchase through PayPal.

Installation:

This script is an **AppleScript applet** and can be run by double-clicking its icon in the Finder. However, it is probably best accessed from the iTunes Script menu.

Put AppleScripts in your iTunes "Scripts" folder. This is located at *[user name] / Library / iTunes / Scripts /*.

*The user Library directory is hidden by default. To make it visible, hold down the Option key on your keyboard and select **Go > Library** from the Finder.*

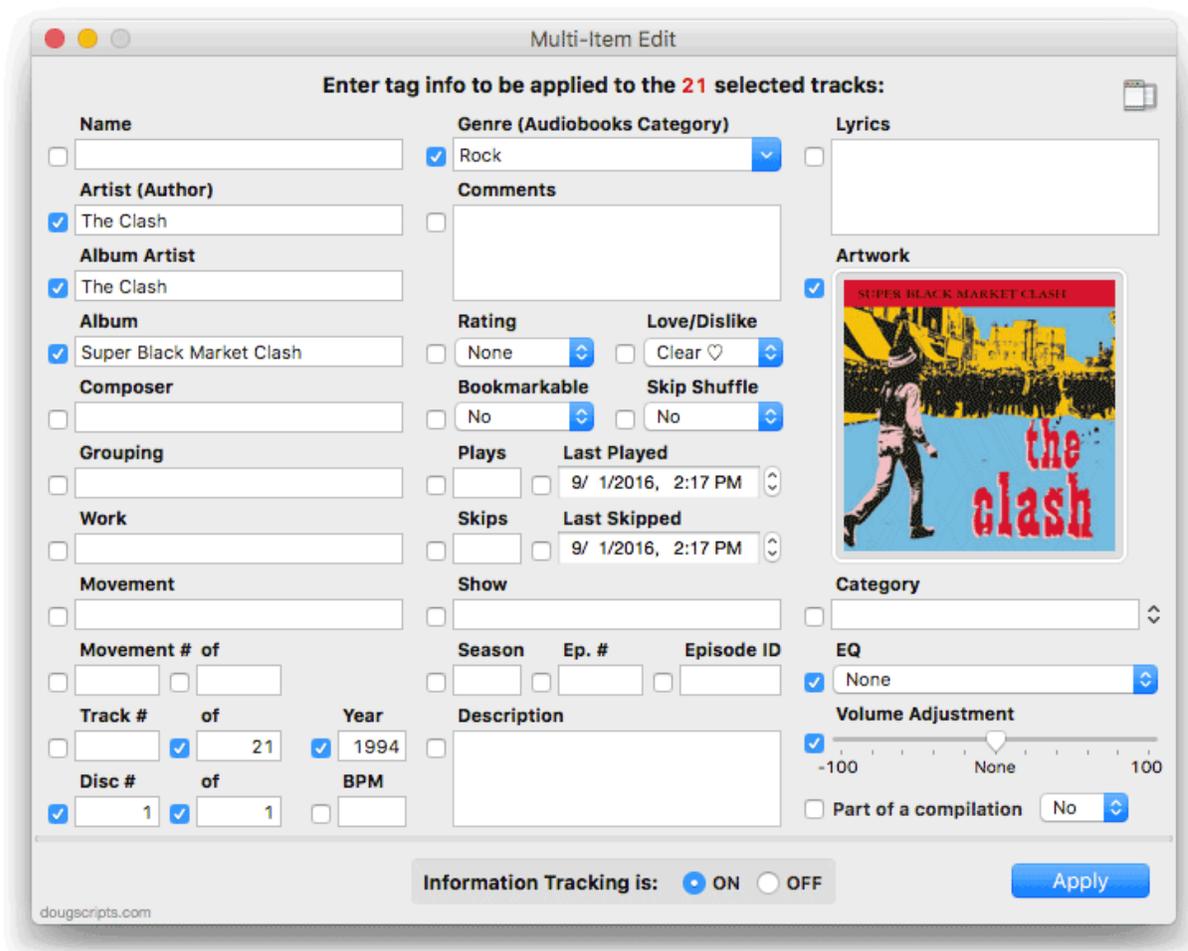
If the *[user name] / Library /* folder does not contain the "iTunes" or "Scripts" folders

then then create them and put the script(s) in the "Scripts" folder. AppleScripts will then appear in iTunes' Script menu, and can be activated by selecting by name and clicking. Be sure to also save this Read Me document in a safe and convenient place.

See the online Download FAQ for more info and video on downloading and installing AppleScripts.

How to use:

Select **one or more** tracks in iTunes whose tags you wish to view or edit and launch the script. This window will display and float alongside iTunes:



For a single track selection - The tags from the single selected iTunes track will be displayed in the main window and new text or options can be entered. When the **Apply** button is clicked any **changes** will be applied to the single selected track. You can cursor through individual tracks in a playlist in iTunes (using its Up and Down

arrow key shortcuts, for example) while Multi-Item Edit is active to edit each single selected track.

For a multiple track selection - Multi-Item Edit behaves the same way iTunes Multiple-Item Edit window works (or *used* to work, pre-iTunes 12): enter text into the fields and change the options you want to edit then click the **Apply** button. Any text field whose adjacent checkbox is checked will be applied to the corresponding tag in each selected track in iTunes.

Should Go Without Saying, But to Make It Perfectly Clear:

- No information will be transferred to any iTunes track(s) until the **Apply** button is pressed.
- **When editing a single track selection** - text entries and options that are *different* from the track's current settings will be applied to the track.
- **When editing a multiple-track selection** - an *empty* text entry field that is checkmarked will **clear** that tag in the selected tracks.

You can continue selecting different tracks in iTunes to edit or quit by pressing **Command-Q**.

iTunes performance notes:

1) It is possible, though usually unlikely, for iTunes to lose focus of its selection object during operation. Make sure the tracks you select in iTunes are indeed detected by Multi-Item Edit before changing or applying tag data. You may have to re-select tracks in iTunes. Technically, the *last* selected object is the *current* selected object.

2) iCloud Music Library/iTunes Match users: Changes to Plays, Skips and their date tags may not transfer to their respective tracks on other devices and machines. Additionally, these tags may revert to their previous settings. This is likely an Apple issue with how tracks sync.

DO NOT edit track tags in iTunes while editing tags with Multi-Item Edit. Changes may not be detected.

Toggle Information Tracking:

At launch, by default, **Information Tracking is ON**. Whenever the track selection in iTunes changes, Multi-Item Edit detects the change and updates the tag fields and

options in its main window with tag information from the selected tracks.

When **Information Tracking is OFF**, Multi-Item Edit will continue to detect the track selection, **but will ignore the selected tracks' tag information** and will cease updating the tag fields and options. This will allow you to preserve or manually change the current tag information in Multi-Item Edit's window and still be able to select different tracks in iTunes to which to apply it.

Save and Load:

The current tag fields and options configuration (including artwork and checkboxes states) can be saved and then loaded at another time. This can be a powerful feature for users who frequently enter the same tag information to multiple tracks.

To save the current tag configuration:

Choose **Save Configuration...** in the **File** menu (or press **Command-S**).

Enter a name for the configuration in the text box that appears. By default, the name selected is "Default". Saving a configuration with the name "Default" will automatically over-write the previous "Default" configuration without confirmation. Otherwise, enter any text you like.

All settings and tag field entries are saved, including all settings and text, blanked fields, artwork, and checkbox status (for multiple track selection mode).

To load a saved configuration:

Choose **Load Configuration...** in the **File** menu (or press **Command-L**).

If there is only one saved configuration (such as the "Default" configuration) then it will be loaded immediately. Otherwise, choose the configuration to load from the list and click OK.

The information from the chosen configuration will replace *everything* currently displayed in Multi-Item Edit's tag fields and options.

Particulars:

- While **playlist windows** are available in iTunes 12.6 and later and Multi-Item Edit can recognize tracks that have been selected in them, for *best* results select tracks in the main iTunes **browser** window.
- **Single-track tags:** the tags “Name”, Track Number”, “Episode Number”, “Episode ID”, "Movement", "Movement Number" and “Sort Name”—and, to a lesser degree, “Show”, “Lyrics”, Comments” and Description”—are most commonly used for individual tracks. **Unless You Know What You Are Doing** then I advise using caution when applying the **same data to these tags** in a multiple-selection of tracks.
- **Sorting tags:** the Sort tags are accessible in a drawer which can be toggled open/closed using the **drawer icon** in the top-right corner of the main window.
- **Artwork well:** a graphics image file can be dragged to the artwork well. If the artwork well is selected, graphics can be copied to the clipboard from it using the **Command-C** shortcut, pasted to it using the **Command-V** shortcut or deleted from it using the **Delete** key.
- **Last Played/Last Skipped dates:** These entry boxes are initialized at launch with the date/time of “now”. During single-track editing, unless there is a corresponding entry in the Plays or Skips fields, these entry fields are disabled.
- **Checkmark All/Checkmark None:** As a *convenience*, all the checkboxes can be checked on or off during a multi-item session by using the **Checkmark All/Checkmark None** commands in the View menu—or the **Command-K/Shift-Command-K** shortcuts. These commands are disabled during a single-track session.
- **Clear:** all of the tag fields and options settings can be cleared and/or set to default by choosing **Clear** in the View menu or by pressing **Command-Delete**.

Thanks to Wolfgang Reszel for the icon!



Helpful Links:

Information and download link for this script is located at:

<https://dougscripts.com/itunes/scripts/ss.php?sp=multiitemedit>

If you have any trouble with this script, please email me.

My name is Doug Adams

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Click on the underlined URL text:

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Version History:

v5.5 sept 22 2018

- Accommodates macOS 10.14 Mojave
- Minor performance and security enhancements

v5.4 aug 30 2017

- Accommodates macOS 10.13 High Sierra
- Minor performance and security enhancements

v5.3 may 22 2017

- Fixes compatibility issue with macOS 10.12.5

v5.2 april 4 2017

- Support for playlist windows in iTunes 12.6 and later
- Fixes issue with gathering default Category names
- Fixes Sort Name display for multiple items
- Other minor maintenance

v5.1 december 11 2016

- Minor maintenance
- This version for macOS 10.10 and later only

v5.0 september 1 2016

- Adds support for Dislike, Work and Movement tags (iTunes 12.5 and later)
- Removed "Played" option
- Re-organized UI (as a result of the above changes)
- Minor maintenance and security updates

v4.9 june 20 2016

- Preliminary support for macOS 10.12

- Maintenance and security updates

v4.8 may 20 2016

- Accommodates changes in iTunes 12.4
- Minor maintenance

v4.7 apr 2 2016

- Fixes launch issue when iTunes Library XML inaccessible
- Security considerations
- Minor maintenance

v4.6 nov 17 2015

- Fixes bug preventing display when podcast or iTunesU tracks selected

v4.5 july 17 2015

- Fixes font issue affecting some users

v4.4 july 10 2015 (same day as 4.3)

- Fixes bug with detecting checkboxes set

v4.3 july 10 2015

- Adds "Loved" rating option (iTunes 12.2 and later)
- Accommodates changes in iTunes 12.2
- Removes "Album Rating"
- Minor tweaks to enhance performance

v4.2 june 20 2015

- Fixes a logic issue with auto-setting checkboxes
- Addresses issue where iTunes Match tracks might be ignored
- Fixes error with setting played/skipped dates in single mode
- Fixes issue with Information Tracking toggle
- Preliminary support for OS X 10.11 (El Capitan) beta

v4.1 mar 1 2015

- Fixes an issue with Name tagging multiple selection

v4.0 feb 24 2015

- Adds Save and Load Configuration options
- Adds Information Tracking toggle
- Adds Clear option
- Minor performance fixes

v3.1 feb 6 2015

- Minor fixes, maintenance release

v3.0 nov 30 2014

- Now can work with a single as well as multiple track selection
- Stays open until manually quit, allowing different tracks to be selected/edited per session
- Adds close and miniaturize window control buttons
- Changes "Cancel" and "OK" buttons to "Quit" and "Apply"
- Fixes keyboard accessibility issues
- Minor code tweaks

v2.1 nov 3 2014

- Fixes issue truncating text in entry fields

- Fixes issues with expansion tooltips in entry fields
- Fixes issue showing initial common sort tags text
- Fixes accessibility issues for Full Keyboard Access

v2.0 oct 27 2014

- Adds additional tags (name, sort name, artwork, album rating, last played/last skipped, plays, skips, played, lyrics, category)
- Moves sorting tags to side drawer
- Adds Checkmark All/Checkmark None convenience commands to View menu
- Minor minor minor tweaks

v1.0 oct 22 2014

- Initial release

This doc last updated September 22 2018

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