

Remove n Characters From Front or Back v4.4

AppleScript for iTunes

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This script lets you delete a specified number of characters from either the beginning *or* the ending of the **Song Name, Artist, Album Artist, Album, Composer, Comments or Show** tag of each selected track.

For OS 10.6 and better only.

This script is Donationware. If you use it and like it *please* consider making a donation to support my AppleScripting efforts. [Click here for more info.](#)

Installation:

To manually install: Put AppleScripts in your iTunes "Scripts" folder. This is located in *[user name]* > *Library* > *iTunes*.

As of OS X 10.7 (Lion), the user Library directory is hidden by default. Option-click the Finder's "Go" menu and select "Library" to make it visible.

If there is no folder named "Scripts" there, create one and put the script(s) in it. 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.

Note: This script is a **Cocoa-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.

How to use:

Launch the applet. It can float above iTunes. Tracks can be selected/de-selected in iTunes while the applet is active.

This window will be displayed:



Select one or more iTunes tracks whose tags you wish to edit. The applet will be aware of the tracks you have selected.

- If no tracks are selected in iTunes—or tracks cannot otherwise be accessed—the input controls of the applet will be dimmed and disabled.

Choose which tag of the selected tracks you want to edit from the popup.

Use the stepper to set the number of characters you want removed (1-60) and click either the "Front" or "Back" button.

The *Preview* field will display two arrows inserted in a chosen tag from your selected tracks. The text between the two arrows is what will be removed. As you change tags, number of characters, or "Front"/"Back" settings, the arrows will be updated in the *Preview* text box.

You can also rotate through each track in the *Preview* text box using the adjacent arrow stepper.

- The window can be expanded horizontally and the Preview text field will expand accordingly.

When the settings are satisfactory, click the "Proceed" button to edit the chosen tag of the selected tracks.

After the applet has completed processing you can continue editing other tags of the currently selected tracks or select another set of tracks.

You can dismiss the applet by clicking on the Quit button.

Helpful Links:

Click on the underlined URL text:

- Doug's AppleScripts for iTunes
- Assign Shortcut Keys to AppleScripts
- Download FAQ - **Info on downloading and installing AppleScripts**
- Doug's RSS Feed - **Recent site news, script additions and updates** (add link to your news reader)
- 30 Most Recent RSS Feed - **Most recent new and updated scripts** (add link to your news reader)

Information and download link for this script is located at:

<http://dougscripits.com/itunes/scripts/ss.php?sp=removenchars>

Version History:

v4.3 April 12 '12

- fixes issue with multiple open playlist windows

v4.3 February 9 '12

- maintenance update
- now stay-open, floats above iTunes until quit
- live track selection detection
- increases "n" limit from 24 to 60
- preview scrolling now in ascending orientation
- general enhancements and improvements

v4.2 August 14 '11

- provides preview for each selected track
- displays progress during processing

v4.1 July 27 '11

- accounts for iTunes full screen mode in Lion

v4.0 July 24 '11

- written as a Cocoa-AppleScript Applet for Snow Leopard or better only
- consolidates all settings into a single window
- adds corresponding Sort tags
- displays "Example" field

v3.1 April 24 '10

- maintenance release
- adds "Show" to options
- runs until quit from its main choose box

v3.0 May 13 '08

- runs as universal binary
- adds "Comments" to options
- performance fixes and finessings

v2.0 March 30 '06

- added ability to remove text from the end of selected tags.

v1.4 October 17 '04

- added ability to edit the album and artist tags.

v1.3 June 5 '04

- fixed problem with selection object

v1.2 oct 8 03
- maintenance

this doc last updated April 12 12

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

My name is Doug Adams
dougscripts@mac.com

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