De-Genre v4.2

AppleScript for iTunes

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Helps manage and remove unwanted Genre names from iTunes.

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:

You can make superfluous Genres vanish from iTunes' Genres pop-up list simply by eliminating a reference to them in your tracks. For example, to rid iTunes of a Genre called "Light Brazilian Jazz", re-Genre all the tracks whose Genre is "Light Brazilian Jazz" to plain "Jazz" or "Brazilian", or what have you. When no tracks are assigned to the "Light Brazilian Jazz" Genre, that Genre will be dropped. (Note: iTunes **original** Genre names cannot be removed this way; only those accumulated from other sources or created by you.)
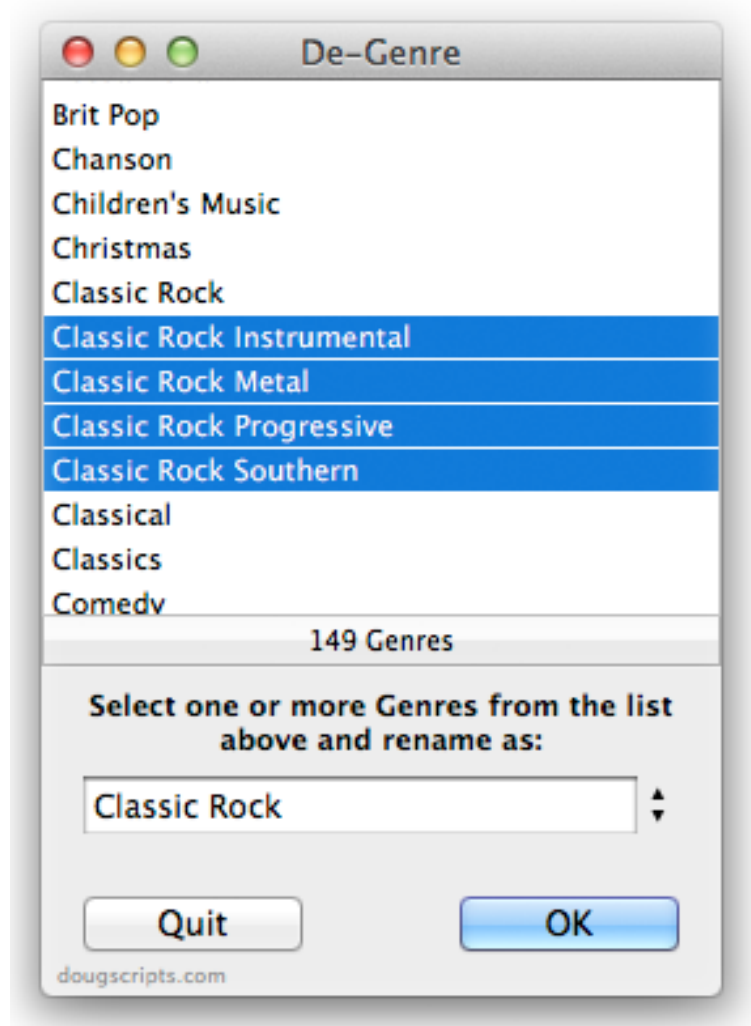
Of course, you can use iTunes' multiple editing feature to do this as well, but the script doesn't require you to batch-select tracks and thus saves a few steps.

I wrote this script because I found I was sub-categorizing far too much (60s British Blooze, 60s Psychedelic, 60s Frat, etcetera) and had *scores* of Genres. I wanted to quickly consolidate Genres–and then lose the un-used Genre names.

An example:

I have four Genres I want to eliminate and consolidate under another Genre: "Classic Rock Instrumental", "Classic Rock Metal", "Classic Rock Progressive", and "Classic Rock Southern". I want those Genre names to **disappear** and I want the tracks assigned to them re-assigned to "Classic Rock".

Launch the script and select the Genre names from the list (hold the Command key while clicking on multiple selections). Then choose an existing Genre tag or enter a new Genre tag in the combo box (selected Genres will not appear in the pull-down menu of the combo box):

Click the **OK** button to begin processing the Genre tags. Any tracks using "Classic Rock Instrumental", "Classic Rock Metal", "Classic Rock Progressive", or "Classic Rock Southern" in the iTunes library will have their Genre tag changed to "Classic Rock" and the original four Genres will no longer appear in any iTunes Genre popups.

Notes:

• The Genre data is obtained from the current iTunes library's XML file. The XML file is periodically written out by iTunes when changes are made to track data. After updating the Genre tags, the script will wait until the XML has been updated with the changes before it can be used again.

• If a track has a (!) next to it it means that its file cannot be located. Sometimes these are called "dead tracks". This script cannot alter the Genre of a dead track and thus its Genre cannot be removed from the core list. If you have this kind of track in your Library you should either remove it or re-associate it with the correct audio file.

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://dougscripts.com/itunes/scripts/ss.php?sp=degenre

Version History:

v4.2 july 20 2012
- compatible with OS X (Mountain Lion)

v4.1 feb 14 2012
- fixes error when no Book tracks exist

v4.0 jan 25 2012
- re-written as Cocoa-AppleScript applet for OS X 10.6 or better only
- consolidates input into single UI
- fixes problem with some genres of books and stream tracks being ignored
- code finesses

v3.0 sep 30 2009
- updated as universal binary
- code finesses

v2.1 nov 21 2007
- updated for compatibility wth Leopard

v2.0 april 30 2007
- completely re-written for speed

v1.0 june 14 2003
- initial release

this doc last updated July 20 2012

If you have any trouble with this script, please email me.
My name is Doug Adams
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