

File Manager v1.0

AppleScript for iTunes
written by Paul Withey

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This script This script assists in the management of files in the iTunes Music folder, or elsewhere, by allowing you to either add or remove those files depending on the contents of the current active iTunes Library file.

It was written to make the copying of files to the internal drive of the machine easier when the full collection of files are stored on an external device which you may not wish to connect to your Mac at a later time.

Please note that since the script makes use of the iTunes xml library file it requires at least version 3 of 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:

If you installed the files from the downloaded disk image by dragging them to the "Installer", then the AppleScript and this Read Me document have already been installed in your *[user name] > Library > iTunes > Scripts* folder. The script will appear in iTunes' Script menu, where you can activate it by clicking on its name.

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

How to use:

On run you are presented with 2 options...

Trash Surplus: This option compares the contents of a specified Music folder with those listed in the iTunes xml file and moves those not required to trash.

The first stage is reading the xml file.

It then checks first if the artist is required, then the album and finally any particular tracks of a required album by comparing the path to the contents of the xml file.

It then scans any Album and Artist folders in the Music folder and moves any empty ones to trash.

A final dialog is displayed on completion, which you must acknowledge, which prompts you to check your trash and empty it if happy.

Emptying your Trash will delete the files so do so only if you are happy with their deletion or you have backups available.

Transfer Tracks: This option examines the current active Library file and identifies any known songs which iTunes is unable to locate a valid file for. It then attempts to copy these files from a specified source of music files such as a mounted external drive. You are asked to specify which folder will be used by iTunes to play the songs back from and also which folder the script can attempt to source them from.

The script makes use of the standard iTunes catalog structure of Artist/Album/Track in order to find the correct file to copy so the music files on the source folder should be arranged in that structure. The files it copies are placed in the correct folder based on the Artist name and Album name or if the track is flagged as part of a Compilation.

After all possible files have been copied the script will quit iTunes and restart it to clear the library view of "!" marks which identify the missing tracks it found.

You are then asked to supply the name of a results file where the script will list any tracks it was unable to locate a file for.

Since iTunes can track the movement of files it will not list those tracks trashed in error by the "Trash Surplus" option as missing while they still exist in the Trash, so if you have run the Trash Surplus option then empty your trash before running the transfer process.

For the script to identify a track as missing its file the track must be originally added to the iTunes library from your specified iTunes Playback folder. You should not have added it from your Music source folder. You can however delete the track once you have added it to iTunes and use this script to transfer it when required. This script cannot be used to consolidate multiple source folders. That job is for another script :)

Since both options can take some time to complete the Eq Status icon on the iTunes main panel will flash during the execution of the script.

While the script is running you maybe asked to specify the locations of the following:

iTunes Playback folder : this is the folder which iTunes stores its songs in, usually named "iTunes Music" Folder. This is the folder the artist or album folders and track files will be removed from by the Trash Surplus option and also where the Transfer Tracks option will copy track files to.

The Music Source folder : this is the folder where the script can find any tracks it requires to copy over into the Playback folder.

Both these locations are remembered between runs of the script and once specified you will not need to re-select the locations providing the script can find them. If, for whatever reason, its unable to locate the folder you will be asked to re-select as required.

If you keep your iTunes folder outside of the Music folder in your home directory you may also be asked to specify where the script can find the "iTunes Music Library.xml" file

Installation: Since this script restarts iTunes during the Transfer Tracks option it should not be run from the iTunes scripts menu. Please install in your system scripts folder instead.

Please note: iTunes translates some non-alphanumeric characters in a track, album or artist name into unicode in the xml file. Where possible i have taken this into account however if a file is moved to trash and it contains characters of this type in its name you are strongly advised to check that the file is not required before you empty the trash. It was decided to use the xml file to identify which tracks to trash in order to overcome the 31 character limit which iTunes has in how it stored file names. If a track is trashed in error its probably due to this.. if possible please send me the name of the track so i can include the required characters in further versions.. You can also check for yourself if this was the issue.. in the xml file find the location of the track.. its path will look similar to this..

```
<string>file://localhost/Users/paul/Music/iTunes/iTunes%20Music/artist%20a/album%20z/its%20a%20%22dream%22.mp3</string>
```

Those characters which have been converted are indicated by the % sign and two numbers, %20 for example is a space. However not all special characters are converted and are included in the location as standard format.. Towards the bottom of the script you will find a list of those i have identified..

set OkCharacters to "1234567890abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz:~!@\$/"

just add any characters you identify to the list and it will prevent the script trashing the track in error..

Also the iTunes preference option to prefix track numbers to files can cause issues with the trashing files or the recognition of transferred files. If you transfer files with a number prefix and iTunes is not set to this option then the transferred files may not be recognised by iTunes resulting in it still listing the tracks as "mia" even though they are located in your specified playback folder. Equally files which contain numbers maybe trashed in error if the option is turned off. You can update all the files in the music store by toggling the option on/off in the iTunes preferences and taking the update files option.

This script is free for you to distribute as desired, but please include this read me and following the example of the KLF please feel free to copy anything that you find useful....
Paul

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Special thanks to the following: Tusker, for suggestions and testing. Doug (for sampled bits of code where i was too lazy to write my own). Bery (for allowing me to copy his idea about the flashing button to indicate the script is running)

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://www.dougscripits.com/itunes/scripts/ss.php?sp=filemanager>

Version History:

v1.0 jan 22 2006

- initial release

this doc last updated January 20 06

If you have any trouble with this script, please email me. Note, however, that I am not its author.

My name is Doug Adams

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