Migrate to Script Menu v1.0

AppleScript for iTunes

Find more **free** AppleScripts
and info on writing your own
at Doug's AppleScripts for iTunes.

These scripts and instructions will assist you in making your AppleScripts for iTunes conveniently available in the system-wide **Script Menu**.

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.

The Problems:

1) You have too many AppleScripts for iTunes!

If you find that your collection of iTunes AppleScripts–installed in the *user name > Library > iTunes > Scripts* folder and appearing in the iTunes Script menu–has become unmanageable, that you are spending far too much time scrolling the iTunes Script menu, then you may wish to migrate your collection of scripts to the system-wide **Script Menu**.

The **Script Menu** has several advantages over the iTunes Script menu. AppleScripts in the **Script Menu** can be...

  ...organized into nested folders (several deep) based on what they do or what you use them for.
  ...made more conveniently available when iTunes is the frontmost application.
  ...made available from within any application.
  ...made available for all users.

Migrating your collection of iTunes AppleScripts to the **Script Menu** will allow you to create organized sub-menus of scripts and reduce Menu-Scrolling and Clutter.

2) Compiled AppleScripts for iTunes that are run from Script Menu perform *much slower* than when run from the iTunes Script menu!

This phenomenon occurs because – suffice it to say – the OSA Scripting architecture needs to Figure Out A Whole Bunch Of Stuff when a script for a particular application is activated.

1) Create the Requisite Folders for Script Menu

Running the script "Make Script Menu Folders" will create the necessary folders in your *username > Library* directory such that **Script Menu** will display an iTunes Scripts folder in its User Scripts section **and** display iTunes Scripts in its Application Scripts section when iTunes is the frontmost application:
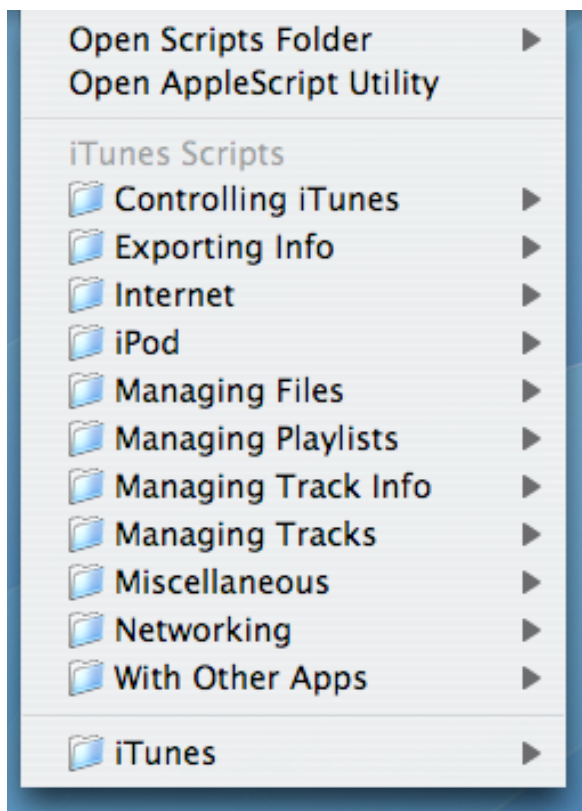
***Above**, sub-folders have been created in the **Script Menu** folder based on the Categories at my site. Folders have been set up in such a way that when iTunes is the frontmost application scripts appear at the top of **Script Menu's** menu.*

As in the picture above, when you click on the **Script Menu** icon and iTunes is the frontmost application, the nested-folders in *username > Library > Scripts > Applications > iTunes* will appear. These folders were created with the script "Make Script Menu Folders".

The script "Make Script Menu Folders" will

   • Create a *username / Library / Scripts* folder (if none exists–and none does by default)

- Create a *username / Library / Scripts / iTunes* folder (if none exists)
- Create a *username / Library / Scripts / Applications* folder (if none exists)
- Create an *alias* to the *username / Library / Scripts / iTunes* folder in *username / Library / Scripts / Applications* (if none exists)
- Create "tasking" sub-folders in the *username / Library / Scripts / iTunes* folder (if none exist)

All *you* have to do is move the scripts from your iTunes "Scripts" folder, *user name > Library > iTunes*, to the appropriate folders in *username > Library > Scripts > Applications > iTunes*.

As a result, any scripts you place in the *username > Library > Scripts > Applications > iTunes* folder will appear in the iTunes sub-menu of the **Script Menu** User Scripts section and in the Application Scripts section of **Script Menu** when iTunes is the frontmost application.

2) But Wait!

Don't move your *compiled* AppleScripts! They will run ***much slower*** in **Script Menu**!

By the way, *Compiled* AppleScripts have this icon in the Finder:

Application AppleScripts have this icon:

A simple workaround is to create a new specific "trigger" script for a specific compiled script in your iTunes "Scripts" menu that can be installed in your **Script Menu** folders. This script will activate the specified compiled script without a decrease in processing time.

Use the script "Make Trigger Script" to create a special "trigger" script for a selected *compiled* script in the iTunes "Scripts" folder.

Run "Make Trigger Script" and select a *compiled* script in the iTunes "Scripts" folder. Next, select a location to save the "trigger" script in the *username > Library > Scripts > Applications > iTunes* folder.

This new "trigger" script will be named using the name of the selected script with a space prefix (ie: "Swap Song Name With Artist" will be named " Swap Song Name With Artist"). The original script can stay in your iTunes "Scripts" folder; the new "trigger" script can be activated from the **Script Menu**.

When you select to run the "trigger" script, the script it refers to in your iTunes "Scripts" folder will run just as speedily as it would had you selected it from the iTunes Script menu. Amazing!

Hacking the Scripts:

• By default, "Make Script Menu Folders" creates folders named after the AppleScript Categories at my site. However, you can add or delete folder names to or from this list.

Open the "Make Script Menu Folders" in Script Editor (drag the script to Script Editor's icon to open it) and locate this line quite close to to beginning of the script:

property new_folders : {"Managing Tracks", "Managing Track Info", "Managing Playlists", "Controlling iTunes", "Exporting Info", "Managing Files", "Networking", "Internet", "iPod", "Miscellaneous", "With Other Apps"}

Here you see a list of the names of the folders that the script will create. They are listed within brackets inside quotation marks.

If you wish, add your own sub-folder names by adding a folder name in quotations (ie: "My Scripts") making sure you maintain the comma delimiter between the script names.

You can also delete one or more of the current folder names. Make sure that the remaining script folder names are separated by commas.

Note that if you have previously run the script and the sub-folders have already been created, deleting the names in the script will *not* delete current sub-folder names if you run the script again. However, new folder names–if they don't already exist–will be added.

"Save" the script in Script Editor. You're done!

• By default, "Make Trigger Script" will name the "trigger" script by using the name of the targeted script and prefixing a space to it. Thus, for example, the "trigger" script for "Swap Song Name With Artist" will be named " Swap Song Name With Artist"–see the space? You can change the prefix to some other text you would prefer.

Open the "Make Trigger Script" in Script Editor and locate this line quite close to to beginning of the script:

property script_prefix : " "

This is the text that will precede the name of the selected script used as the name for the "trigger" script.

Change the text within the "" to whatever you like. (Remember that scripts are sorted in the Script Menu by alpha-numeric characters and that you probably don't want the "trigger" script to have the same name as the original script.) "Save" the script in Script Editor. You're done!

For more information about all of this, see the Managing Scripts With Script Menu article at my site. For more information about Script Menu, see these Apple pages.

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=migratetoscriptmenu

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- initial release

this doc last updated May 10 07

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