

# Move Playlists to Folder

## v4.5

Universal, for macOS 12+/Music v1.2+  
Find more free AppleScripts  
and info on writing your own  
at [dougscripsts.com](http://dougscripsts.com).

This script will move the playlists you select to a new or existing Playlist Folder.

Universal, for macOS 12 and later 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:

This script, "Move Playlists to Folder", is an **AppleScript applet** and can be run by double-clicking its icon in the Finder. Thus, it can be installed anywhere you find it convenient to access. However, it is probably best accessed from the Script menu of the Music app, from where it can be launched by clicking its name.

To make an AppleScript available in your **Music app** Script menu, install it in the Music "Scripts" folder. This is located at `[user name] / Library / Music / Scripts /`. **Music app** will look for AppleScripts in this folder.

*The user Library directory may be 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 "Music" folder or "Scripts" folder, then create them and put the script in the "Scripts" folder. AppleScripts will then appear in the Music app's Script menu, and can be activated by selecting by name and clicking.

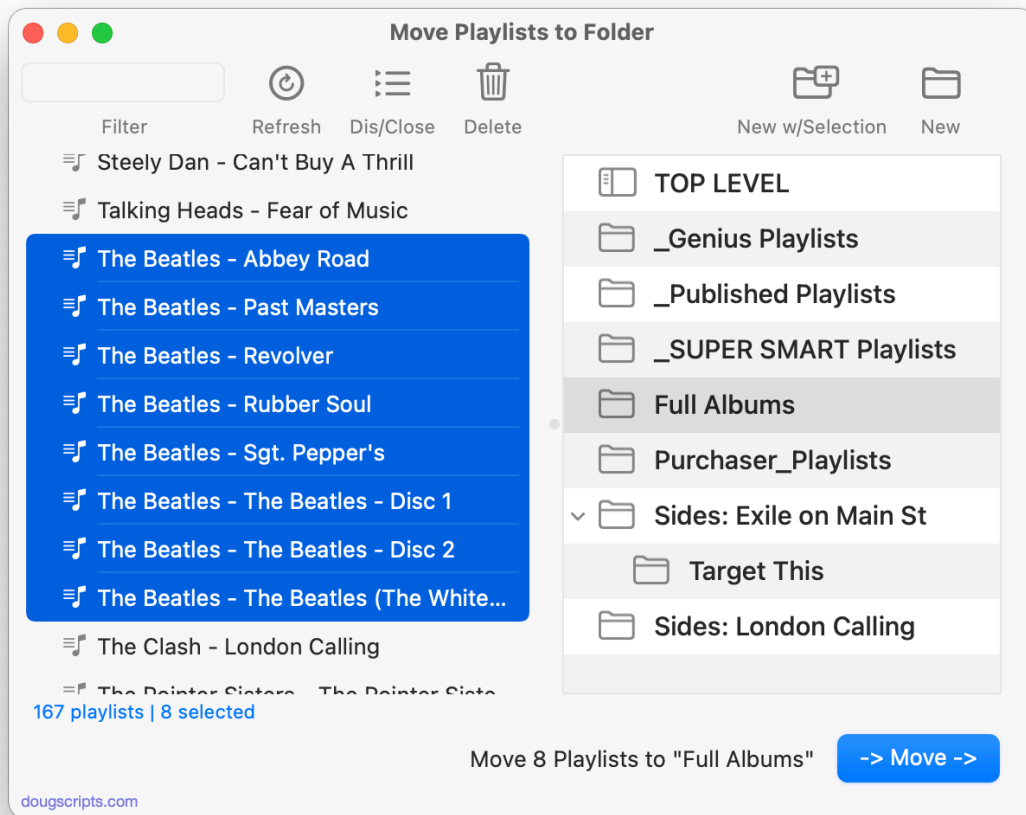
Be sure to also save this Read Me document in a safe and convenient place.

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

## How to use:

**CAUTION:** Some routines will FAIL if they any encounter "dead" tracks in your library.

Launch the script and it will begin indexing the current configuration of playlists from the Music app, which can take a few moments.



Select **one or more** playlists in the left panel and then select the Playlist Folder you want to move them to in the right panel. Click the "-> Move ->" button to process the move.

An "Are you sure?" alert dialog will ask for a final confirmation on the move. A Preferences setting (**Command-**) can toggle this warning off.

After the playlists have been moved in the Music app, the script will re-index the playlists and then you can continue making moves (and perform other operations, below).

To dismiss the script, press **Command-Q**.

## Extricating Playlists from Folders

Playlists inside of Playlist Folders can be moved *out* of them to the Top Level—but only plain Playlists; dynamic Smart and Genius playlists and Playlist Folders cannot be moved *upwards* like this with the applet.

Select one or more plain Playlists in any number of Folders in the left panel and then click "TOP LEVEL" at the top of the Playlist Folders list in the right panel. Click the "-> Move ->" button to process the move.

(Technically, the playlists in this procedure are not actually *moved*. Instead, a copy of each playlist is rebuilt at the top level and then the original source playlists in the Folder(s) are deleted.)

## Details

- Again, **CAUTION**: "dead" tracks—track's whose audio files cannot be located—among a playlist's tracks will cause some of the applet's tasks to fail. The applet will *try not* to lose any data, but ideally dead tracks should be eliminated or resolved *before* using.
- Playlist Folders displayed in the right panel are *a/ways* expanded.
- By default, Playlist Folders in the left panel will load collapsed. A Preferences setting (**Command-**) can change this so that they will always load fully expanded.
- Left panel Playlist Folders can only be selected if they are collapsed. In such cases, a selected Playlist Folder's entire contents will be moved.
- Press the keyboard shortcut **Command-L** to scroll each panel to its first selected item (in case excessive scrolling has rendered the selection far out of sight).

- **TIP:** Instead of clicking with the mouse to give either panel focus, use the **Tab key** and **Shift-Tab** to move focus between the playlist panels (and the Filter field) without disturbing the current selection.
- **Double-click** on a playlist's name to reveal it in the Music app.
- If the script calculates that there is a logistical location conflict (eg: dragging a Playlist Folder into one of its own sub-Playlist Folders) the "-> Move ->" button will remain disabled.

## Tools

- **Filter Field** - display only the playlists whose names contain the entered text.
- "Refresh" in the toolbar, "Refresh" in the **File** menu, **Command-R** - re-index the playlists. **This will also occur automatically after every operation.**
- "Dis/Close" in the toolbar, "Expand/Collapse All" in the File menu, **Command-T** - toggle expansion or collapse of the Playlist Folders in the left panel.
- "Delete" in the toolbar, "Delete Selected..." in the **File** menu, **Command-Delete** - delete the playlists selected in the left panel from the Music app. If a Playlist Folder is selected, its contents will also be deleted.
- "New w/Selection" in the toolbar, "New Playlist Folder from Selection..." in the **File** menu, **Shift-Command-N** - create a new Playlist Folder containing the left panel's selected playlists **under** the right-panel-selected Playlist Folder **or** at the top level.
- "New" in the toolbar, "New Playlist Folder..." in the **File** menu, **Command-N** - create a new **empty** Playlist Folder **under** the selected right panel Playlist Folder **or** at the top level.
- Operations cannot be un-done.

## Helpful Links:

**Information and download link for this script is located at:**

<https://dougscripsts.com/itunes/scripts/ss.php?sp=mxmoveplaylisttofolder>

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

My name is Doug Adams

[support@dougscripts.com](mailto:support@dougscripts.com)

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### **Recent Version History:**

**v4.5** November 4, 2023

- Minor fixes and maintenance; repaired dead links in Help menu

v4.4 December 26, 2022

- Maintenance and minor performance and UI fixes
- Accommodations for macOS 13 Ventura

v4.3 December 30, 2021

- Fixes bug whereby right panel may not populate correctly

v4.2 December 29, 2021

- Officially compiled as Universal
- Commensurate improvements for M1 Macs

v4.1 August 30, 2021

- UI and performance enhancements

v4.0 July 9, 2021

- UI and performance enhancements

v3.3 May 26, 2021

- Accommodations for macOS 11.3+

v3.2 November 4, 2020

- Accommodations for macOS 11 Big Sur
- Performance, UI and security enhancements

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