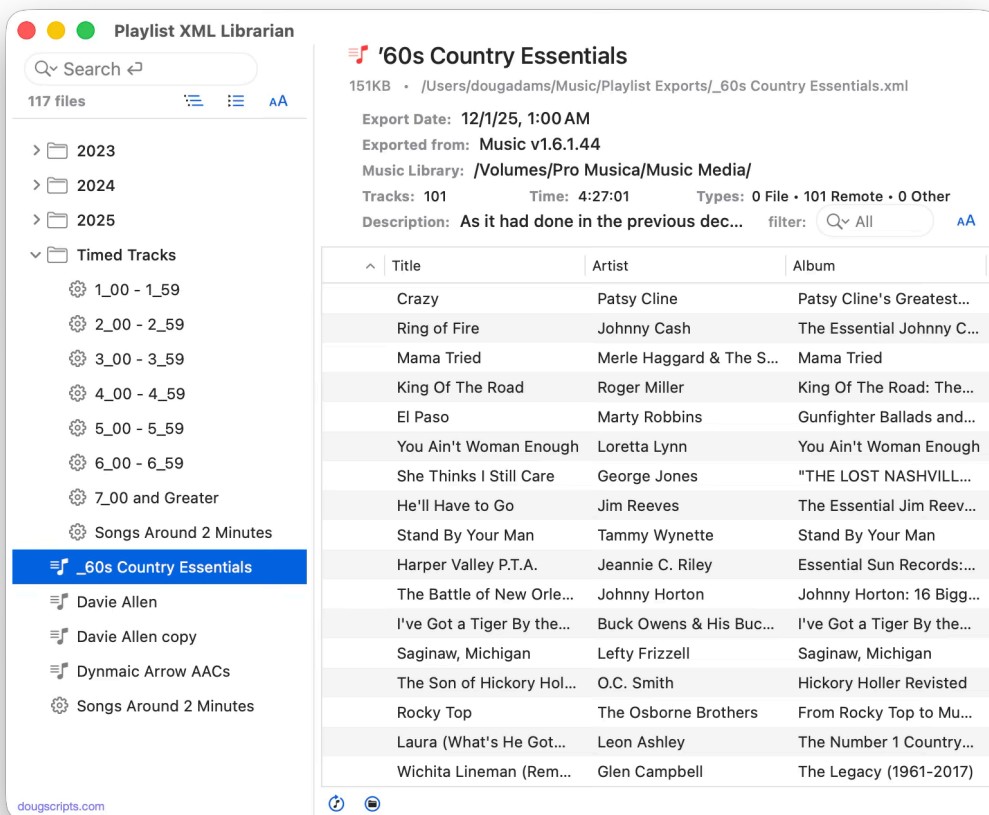


# Playlist XML Librarian

AppleScript applet - v1.3

This applet will list the exported Playlist XML files collected in a specified folder with options to view, search, edit and send (import) them to the Music app. Makes it easy to maintain a stockpile of exported Playlist XMLs to reduce the number of onboard Music playlists.

Universal. For macOS 12 and later.



## Recent Version History:

v1.3 January 31, 2026

- UI adjustments and detailing; minimal Liquid Glass added
- Accepts Open'd and drag-and-dropped Playlist XMLs
- Description field displays popover for longer text
- Table displays Normalization value if present
- Adds "Send to Music app" and "Reveal Default Folder" buttons in main window
- Adds File and Remote Track Type counts to header display
- Handles :00.0 length URL entries properly
- Fixed issue with Filter

v1.2 December 8, 2025

- Increased efficiency of XML parser
- Playlists in source list display appropriate "regular" or "Smart" icon
- Added command to export just the "Smart Criteria" of a Smart playlist to an XML file

v1.1 December 3, 2025

- Adds "Delete" command
- Added Expand/Collapse buttons for source list
- Adds setting to expand all folders at launch
- Better detection of loaded playlists
- Fixed problem with progress bar traveling
- Fixed issue with correct Total Time calculation
- Fixed some auto resizing issues

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This doc last updated December 14, 2025.

Visit this script's [entry at dougscripts.com](#).

Review the online [Download FAQ](#).

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

My name is Doug Adams  
[support@dougscripts.com](mailto:support@dougscripts.com)

This script is full-featured donationware. If you use it and find it beneficial, you can send me some money for making it. Thank you.

## How to use:

Launch the script applet. If this is the first time it is run, you will be asked to select a default folder containing exported Playlist XML files. This folder will be examined each time Playlist XML Librarian is run.

The default folder can be changed in "Settings...".

- Exported Library.xml "playlists" are not supported. This is strictly for Playlist XML files (with ".xml" for an extension) exported via the Music app's *File->Library->Export Playlist...* command.
- **TIP:** I've created a "Playlist Exports" folder in my "Music" folder that I use as the default folder. When I export a Playlist XML file using the Music app's *File->Library->Export Playlist...* command I save it in that folder.
- **TIP:** Playlist XML Librarian can read the default folder at all levels, so you can arrange exported Playlist XML files into subfolders for better organization.

Once the Playlist XML files from the default folder are loaded, the details and track contents of the Playlist XML selected in the left column XML list will be displayed in the right-side Tracks table. Playlists containing thousands of tracks may take a few moments to process.

File tracks whose files cannot be located will display their "Location" path in lighter text preceded by a ! red exclamation point. Remote tracks have no location property.

To determine if a playlist with the same name as a selected Playlist XML exists in the Music app, double-click its name in the XML list. (Of course, because a playlist with the same name already exists does not necessarily mean the two playlists are the same.)

To determine if a particular track listed in the XML may already be a track entry in the Music library, double-click it in the track list. An alert will report whether a track "Definitely" exists (a track with a matching persistent ID), "Could be" (one or more tracks found with the same Title, Album and Artist but not the same persistent ID) or "Not likely" (no track matching).

The XML list can be refreshed from the default folder—say, if you add or remove XML files while Playlist XML Librarian is running—by clicking "Refresh" in the File menu or by pressing **Command-R**.

## Send to Music:

Send items to the Music app by clicking "Send to Music..." in the File menu **or** by pressing the button in the footer **or** by pressing **Command-S**. This action works just like using the Music app's *File->Library->Import Playlist...* command.

To send the items to Music and then play after loading, press and hold the Option key while clicking "Send to Music..." in the File menu **or** while pressing the button in the footer **or** by pressing **Option-Command-S**.

You can send the Playlist XML file selected in the XML list in its entirety OR you can send just the selected tracks in the Tracks table in their own new playlist. If the selected tracks are being sent, you will be asked for a name for the playlist that the Music app will create.

Smart playlists can be sent with or without their "Smart Criteria":

- **WITH Smart Criteria** - It's likely that the Music app will ignore whatever tracks are listed in an imported Smart Playlist XML and simply recreate the playlist with tracks currently in the Music library using the Smart Criteria from the XML file.
- **WITHOUT Smart Criteria** - The Smart Criteria will be removed and only the track data will be sent to Music. In such a case, Music will create a new regular playlist for the tracks.

Any tracks being sent to Music app will be checked to determine if their files actually exist on the computer. This number will be reported before the send takes place. You may then choose not to send the Playlist XML to Music if any files don't exist. Also, it is likely Music will ignore the File-type tracks whose files it cannot locate. Remote-type tracks will be handled appropriately by the Music app.

# How I Do It

Frankly, I would rarely export a playlist as an XML file because traveling to the command to do it—buried in the Music app's *File* menu—always seemed like a long arduous journey for my mouse. That all changed when I assigned the keyboard shortcut **Command-E** to the *File -> Library -> Export Playlist...* menu command. Then I couldn't *stop* exporting playlists.

The primary advantage is being able to keep the Music app de-littered of old-and-in-the-way playlists. After all, you can only listen to one at a time, so why keep them all hanging around? I keep a bunch of organizational Smart playlists (just local, just Apple Music, just ALAC, and so on) inside of Playlist Folders. But most of the playlists I create usually just ended up sticking around and making it difficult to scroll to my Zappa playlists at the bottom of hundreds of others. Too many onboard playlists!

Also, there are plenty of great Apple Music playlists that you can download and then export which you can then (find again!) reload later. The playlist in the screenshot above is of an Apple Music playlist.

I have created a "Playlist Exports" folder in my home/Music/ folder where I save all my exported playlists and that's my default folder in Playlist XML Librarian. The Librarian recognizes subfolders, so I've arranged the "Playlist Exports" folder into year and month subfolders; when I export a playlist I'll create the new month folder if necessary. Pretty simple. (At one time, I used a Folder Action Script to automatically do the folder-filing. But there were times I didn't want its automatic services and I stopped using it. Not a bad idea, though, if you can cope with it.)

One more advantage is that some of these playlists contain local files, and these XML playlists can be "played" by my stand-alone music players [Play Play](#) and [Murph](#).