

Reverse Artist Last, First

v2.0

For macOS 11+/Music v1.1+
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at dougscripsts.com.

This script will juxtapose the text on either side of ", " in the selected tracks' artist and composer tags to restore formats, e.g:

"Ellington, Duke" becomes "Duke Ellington"
"Russell, Pee Wee" becomes "Pee Wee Russell"
"Johnson, James P." becomes "James P. Johnson"
"King, B.B." becomes "B.B. King"

For macOS 11 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:

To make an AppleScript available in **the Music app's** Script menu, install it in the Music "Scripts" folder. This is located at *[user name] / Library / Music / Scripts /*. **Music** 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"

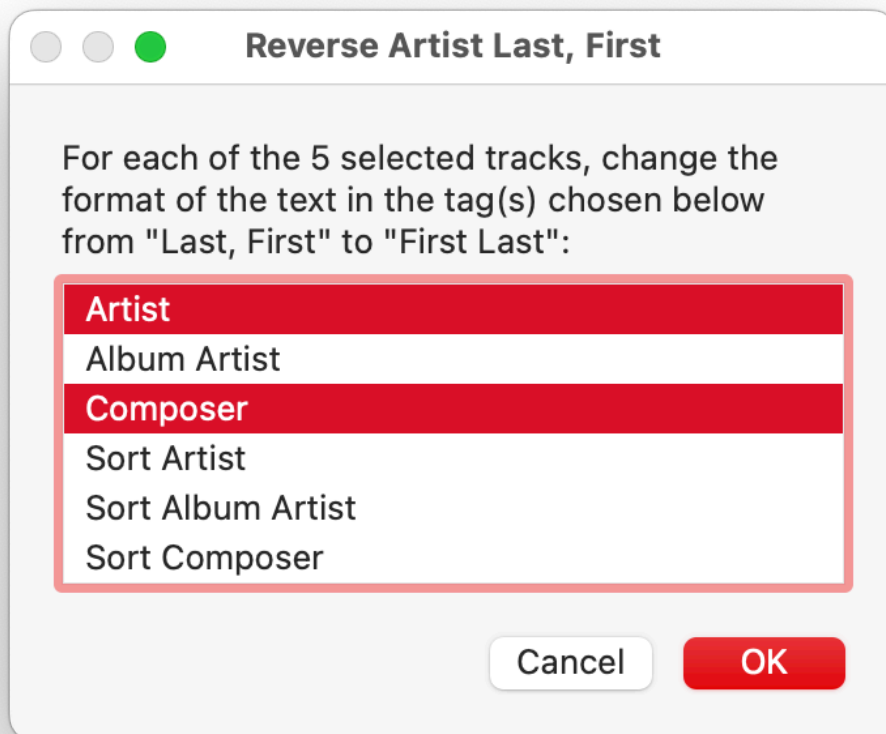
folder, then create them and put the script in the "Scripts" folder. AppleScripts will then appear in the Music app's Script menu and can be activated by selecting by name and clicking.

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:

Select the tracks you want to alter in the Music app and then launch the script.



Choose the appropriate tags to alter from the list—multiple selections can be made by pressing-and-holding the Command key as each item is clicked—and then click the "OK" button to begin processing.

How it works: the script examines the current text in each tag for one or more occurrences of a separator in the form of ", " [comma-space] and then segments that text into two strings: the text **before** the first ", " and the remainder of the text **after** it.

For example, "Ellington, Duke" would produce two strings, "Ellington" and "Duke".

These two strings are then juxtaposed with a space between them to render as "Duke Ellington" and is written back to the tag

The script has no idea what the First Name and the Last Name are *semantically*. For example, something like "Louis, Armstrong" would be rendered as "Armstrong Louis". Therefore, it would be in your best interest to manually select tracks whose Artists tags **you know** can be correctly juxtaposed.

The best error-checking the script can do: If the second string *also* contains a separator string, then it is skipped. So Artist tags like "Crosby, Stills, Nash & Young"—which would produce the two strings "Crosby" and "Stills, Nash & Young"—are skipped.

Helpful Links:

Information and download link for this script is located at:

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

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

My name is Doug Adams

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Version History:

v2.0 February 12, 2022

- Maintenance and modernization update

v1.0 May 27, 2020

- initial release

This doc last updated February 12, 2022

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