

Side Splitter

v2.1

For macOS 10.15+/Music v1.0+
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This script will copy a selection of tracks (presumably the tracks of a single particular album) into separate user-designated "album side" playlists and place these playlists in a distinct Playlist Folder. The script will then play each playlist "side" one at a time, pausing after each one until you accede to play the next "side" (as might occur with an actual LP record). Written as a sort of joke to illustrate how awkward it is to recreate the analog record changer experience digitally.

For macOS 10.15 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, "Side Splitter", 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 **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.

But WHY?

Back in the day, LP vinyl record albums were experienced as pairs of "sides", right? Sometimes in multiple pairs for a multi-disc album.

A decent record side was about 18 to 25 minutes long. So, we listened to music in chunks of this duration. These time constraints could also affect how the record was programmed--the song order and perhaps other "conceptual" factors.

If you spent a lot of time listening to albums this way you may remember having to **flip the record over** after Side One played in order to play Side Two. It only took a few moments to do so, but it's the sort of thing you don't experience much with CDs and virtually never with hours-long playlists.


I thought it would be fun to slice up some of my favorite classic albums and listen to them as "sides". Instead of flipping the record over, though, these sides are separate playlists, which stop after their last song has played. In order to continue, the next "side" playlist has to be manually engaged, allowing for a bit of "breathing room" between distinct sides.

How to use:

JUST A REMINDER: This script will create playlists and can delete playlists.

Select the tracks of an album in the Music app. (In the screenshot below, I have selected an album in Albums View.) They should be sorted by Play Order because you won't be able to change the order later.

Launch the script and the tracks you selected will be listed in its window:



The Clash - London Calling

19 SONGS

▶ Play

^	Name
1	London Calling ...
2	Brand New Cadillac ...
3	Jimmy Jazz ...
4	Hateful ...
5	Rudie Can't Fail ...
6	Spanish Bombs ...
7	The Right Profile ...
8	Lost in the Supermarket ...
9	Clampdown ...
10	The Guns of Brixton ...
11	Wrong 'Em Boyo ...
12	Death or Glory ...
13	Koka Kola ...
14	The Card Cheat ...
15	Lover's Rock ...
16	Four Horsemen ...
17	I'm Not Down ...
18	Revolution Rock ...
19	Train in Vain (Stand by Me)

Side Splitter

Album name:

Put a checkmark by the **last track** of each "side":

<input type="checkbox"/>	London Calling
<input type="checkbox"/>	Brand New Cadillac
<input type="checkbox"/>	Jimmy Jazz
<input type="checkbox"/>	Hateful
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rudie Can't Fail
<input type="checkbox"/>	Spanish Bombs
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Right Profile
<input type="checkbox"/>	Lost in the Supermarket
<input type="checkbox"/>	Clampdown
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The Guns of Brixton
<input type="checkbox"/>	Wrong 'Em Boyo
<input type="checkbox"/>	Death or Glory
<input type="checkbox"/>	Koka Kola
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The Card Cheat
<input type="checkbox"/>	Lover's Rock
<input type="checkbox"/>	Four Horsemen
<input type="checkbox"/>	I'm Not Down
<input type="checkbox"/>	Revolution Rock
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Train in Vain (Stand by Me)

Proceed

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If necessary, enter an Album name in the **Album name** field at the top.

Enter a checkmark in the box next to the **last track** of each "side" of the album.
(Entering a checkmark for the *very last track* is optional.)

If you don't know the "side order" for an album, you can, of course, estimate it yourself or look up the album on Wikipedia or Discogs, which lists the original LP track order by side for many albums.

Click the "Proceed..." button. A new Playlist Folder will be created and it will be populated with a playlist of each "side" of the album as you have designated.

The script will ask if you want to play the first "side" playlist or Quit.

When the current "side" has stopped, the next "side" playlist will be selected and you will be asked if you want to play it. And so on for the rest of the "side" playlists.

When the final "side" has finished, you have the option of having the script delete the Playlist Folder and its contents. Deleting the Playlist Folder will also delete the playlists it contains, but the tracks will remain in the library.

Helpful Links:

Information and download link for this script is located at:

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

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

My name is Doug Adams

support@dougscripsts.com

Click on the underlined URL text:

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- Doug's RSS Feed - **Recent site news, script additions and updates** (add link to your news reader)
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Version History:

v2.1 November 7, 2020

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

v2.0 November 24, 2019

- Accommodations for macOS 10.15 Catalina
- Adds option to "insert" 4 seconds of delay between tracks
- Performance and security enhancements

v1.1 oct 2 2018

- Initial accommodations for macOS 10.14 Mojave
- Minor performance and security enhancements

v1.0 April 23, 2018

- initial release

This doc last updated November 7, 2020

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