

Tracks Without Embedded Artwork

v3.2

Universal, for macOS 11+/Music v1.1+
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This applet will examine the files of the selected tracks (or tracks in the selected playlist) for artwork metadata. Eligible audio tracks whose files are capable of embedding image data but do not contain artwork metadata will be copied to a new discrete playlist.

Universal, for macOS 11 and later only.

This app is free to try full-featured in Demo Mode. In Demo Mode it will perform a single scan for tracks without embedded artwork per launch and only discover up to 20. If you like it you can purchase a code for \$1.99 which will unlock the restrictions. Launch the app and click "Register..." in its File menu to make an in-app purchase through PayPal.

Installation:

This script, "Tracks Without Embedded Artwork", 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 app's "Scripts" folder. This is located at `[user name] / Library / Music / Scripts /`. The 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:

In Demo Mode, select some **tracks** or select **a playlist** in the Music app first and then launch the script.

Registered versions can be launched first and then tracks can be selected in the Music app.

Click the **Start** button to begin scanning the selected tracks or tracks in the selected playlist. Each track's local file (if it exists and can be accessed) will be checked for artwork metadata. Tracks of files that are **capable** of storing artwork as metadata **but do not contain** artwork metadata will be copied to a playlist named “_Tracks_Without_Embedded_Artwork”.

- The default name for the playlist can be changed in the applet's Settings panel; press Command-comma.

Each time the applet is run it will recreate this playlist. To preserve it, simply rename it in the Music app.

To abort the current scan, click the **Stop** button.

False positives?

I have found that the script is accurate when reporting if a file contains artwork metadata. But *sometimes*, even though a file does contain artwork metadata, the Music app or the Finder may not recognize it. I do not know why this is.

Notes:

- The app checks **MP3**, **AAC** and **ALAC** audio files for artwork metadata. Other track/file types will be ignored. **MP3** files with older ID3 tag versions may not be capable of storing image data in their metadata and will be ignored.
- Just because a track has *assigned* artwork in Music does not necessarily mean that the artwork is embedded as metadata in the track's file. This script does not detect if a track has *assigned* artwork or not.
- An audio file's image metadata is unrelated to what the Finder **may or may not** display as a file's icon image.

Helpful Links:

Information and download link for this script is located at:

<https://dougscripts.com/itunes/scripts/ss.php?sp=mxtrackswithoutembedded>

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

My name is Doug Adams

support@dougscripts.com

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Version History:

v3.2 July 22, 2023

- Maintenance release, general updating
- Tested successfully in macOS Sonoma 14

v3.1 December 18, 2021

- Officially compiled as Universal
- Commensurate improvements for M1 Macs

v3.0 August 5, 2021

- Accommodations for macOS 12 Monterey
- Performance, UI and security enhancements

v2.2 November 4, 2020

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

v2.1 March 22, 2020

- Fixes regressions with UI
- Minor performance enhancements
- Removes 10-day trial; un-registered version only discovers 20 tracks without embedded artwork per launch

v2.0 December 12, 2019

- Accommodations for macOS 10.15 Catalina
- Performance and security enhancements

v1.8 sept 18 2018

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

v1.7 sept 2 2017

- Initial accommodations for macOS 10.13 High Sierra
- Minor performance and security enhancements

v1.6 may 22 2017

- Fixes compatibility issue with macOS 10.12.5

v1.5 november 23 2016

- Minor maintenance
- This version for macOS 10.10 and later only

This doc last updated July 22, 2023

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