Search-Replace Tag Text

v5.5
For iTunes 11+/macOS 10.12+
Find more free AppleScripts
and info on writing your own
at Doug's AppleScripts for iTunes.

This applet performs a search-and-replace on a chosen tag (Song Name, Show, Artist, Album Artist, Album, Composer, Comments, Genre, Grouping, Movement or Work) of the selected tracks or all the tracks of the selected Playlist.

For macOS 10.12 and later only.

This app is free to try full-featured for 10 days. If you like it you can purchase a code for $1.99 which will unlock the 10 day trial restriction. Launch the app and click "Register…" in the its File menu to make an in-app purchase through PayPal.

Installation:

This script is an **AppleScript applet** and can be run by double-clicking its icon in the Finder. However, it is probably best accessed from the iTunes Script menu.

Put AppleScripts in your iTunes "Scripts" folder. This is located at *[user name] / Library / iTunes / Scripts /* .

> *The user Library directory is hidden by default. To make it visible, hold down the Option key on your keyboard and select **Go > Library** from the Finder.*
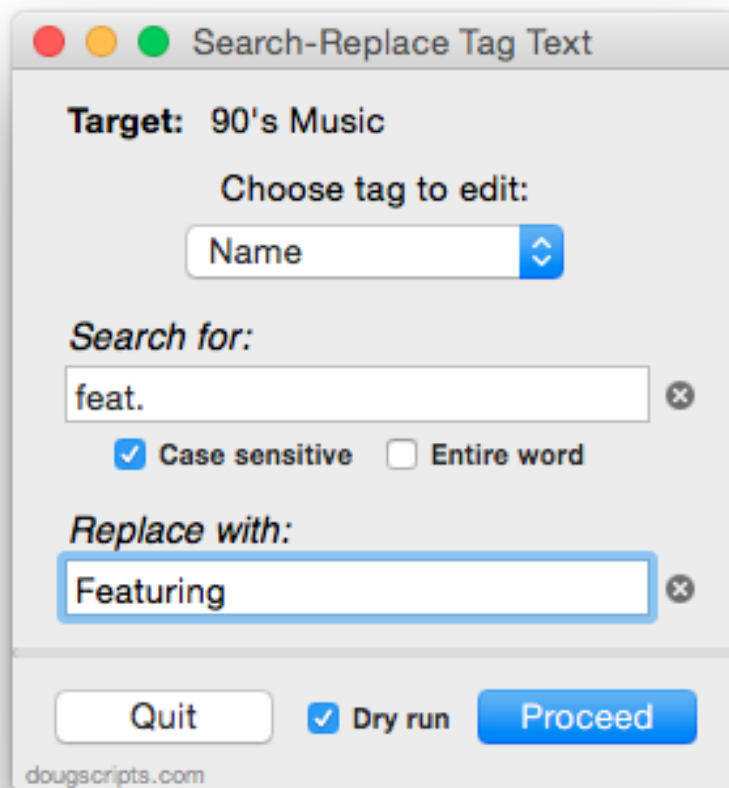
If the *[user name] / Library /* folder does not contain the "iTunes" or "Scripts" folders

then then create them and put the script(s) in the "Scripts" folder. AppleScripts will then appear in iTunes' 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:

The applet can be launched and will stay active until it is quit. While it is active, you can select tracks or a playlist in iTunes on which to perform searches.

The window can be re-sized horizontally to widen the text entry boxes.

The **Target** will display either the name of the selected playlist in iTunes or "Selected tracks" if individual tracks are selected. If, for whatever reason, tracks are inaccessible the **Target** will display "Can't access tracks".

• **Be aware of selecting Smart playlists with "Live Updating" enabled.** Changing

the tags of the tracks it contains may oblige dynamic changes to occur if tracks no longer meet the Smart playlist's criteria.

While the applet is running you can change selections before performing the search-and-replace and the **Target** will stay updated with your tracks or playlist selection.

Choose a tag to edit from the popup.

Enter text to search for and check whether the search is to be case sensitive and/or should be for whole word matches (such that searching "and" will not return "hand"). Word matching is for a *single* word.

Enter the text that is to replace the search text. This text can be **blank** if you want to delete the search text.

Click on the **Proceed** button to perform the search and replace. **This operation cannot be undone**. You will have to make any corrections yourself.

Dry Run Mode

Checking the **Dry run** checkbox will engage **Dry Run Mode**. In Dry Run Mode, when the **Proceed** button is clicked, the tags of the selected tracks will *not* be modified, but the changes that *would have been made* wil be displayed in to the **Dry Run Results window**. This window is only visible while the **Dry run** checkbox is checkmarked.

I **highly recommended** using Dry Run Mode liberally to ensure that you do not ultimately alter your tracks' tags incorrectly.

If the search string could not be found, you will be alerted.

Float Windows

The applet's ability to float its windows above all *other* windows can be toggled on and off by clicking **Float Windows** in the **Window** menu or pressing **Command-F**.

Helpful Links:

Information and download link for this script is located at:
https://dougscripts.com/itunes/scripts/ss.php?sp=searchreplacetagtext

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

My name is Doug Adams
support@dougscripts.com

Click on the underlined URL text:

- Doug's AppleScripts for iTunes
- Assign Shortcut Keys to AppleScripts
- Doug's RSS Feed - **Recent site news, script additions and updates** (add link to your news reader)
- 30 Most Recent RSS Feed - **Most recent new and updated scripts** (add link to your news reader)

Version History:

v5.5 feb 26, 2019
- Fixes an issue with Work and Movement text display

v5.4 sept 18, 2018
- Initial accommodations for macOS 10.14 Mojave
- Minor performance and security enhancements

v5.3 apr 6, 2018
- Addresses issue with line-feed characters in Comments tag

v5.2 mar 25, 2018
- Fixes pre-macOS 10.13 compatibility issue that prevented launch

v5.1 mar 21, 2018
- Float Windows toggle added to Window menu
- Minor maintenance

v5.0 aug 30, 2017
- Initial accommodations for macOS 10.13 High Sierra
- Dry Run Results window only visible while Dry Run check marked
- Drops "Not a dry run" alert
- Minor performance and security enhancements

v4.10 may 22 2017
- Fixes compatibility issue with macOS 10.12.5

v4.9 march 31 2017
- Support for playlist windows in iTunes 12.6 and later
- Minor maintenance

v4.8 november 18 2016
- Minor maintenance
- This version for macOS 10.10 and later only

v4.7 september 12 2016
- Fixes problem when MiniPlayer is set to be kept frontmost

v4.6 august 6 2016

- Adds support for Movement and Work tags (iTunes 12.5 and later)

v4.5 july 9 2016
- Fixes "flickering" issue in Dry Run window

v4.4 june 20 2016
- Preliminary support for macOS 10.12
- Maintenance and security updates

v4.3 mar 8 2016
- Minor maintenance

v4.2 jul 7 2015
- Preliminary support for OS X 10.11 (El Capitan) beta

v4.1 sept 15 2014
- adds support for CD and iPod tracks
- fixes problem with some case-insensitive searches

v4.0 sept 6 2014
- addresses errant "can't access tracks" issue
- additional support for OS X 10.10 Yosemite
- codesigned with Gatekeeper v2 signature
- update checking
- online Help accessible from app
- adds 10-day trial

v3.6 jul 3 2014
- Fixes issue with multiple results per tag
- Fixes issue with Dry Run not displaying all matching items
- Colorizes search and replace sub-text in Dry Run window
- Remembers window size and placement
- Accomodations for OS X 10.10 beta and later

v3.5 oct 18 2013
- saves Dry Run setting between launches
- maintenance tweaks
- compatible with OS X 10.9

v3.4 jan 12 2013
- window is horizontally resizable

v3.3 sept 11 2012
- provides conventional search boxes
- minor code tweaks

v3.2 jul 30 2012
- compatible with OS X 10.8 (Mountain Lion)

v3.1 feb 2 2012
- fixes text escaping problem
- fixes issue with non-results included in dry run display
- fixes error when Grouping tag selected for search
- adds close and minimize buttons
- other minor finesses

v3.0 nov 30 2011
- written as Cocoa-AppleScript applet for OS 10.6 or 10.7 only
- consolidates options to single window
- adds additional tags
- adds case sensitivity and whole word matching
- adds "dry run" preview
- adds progress indicator

v2.0 apr 20 2010
- maintenance release
- universal binary

v1.0 mar 6 2005
- initial release

This doc last updated February 26 2019

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