

macgix Universal Installer 1.3.9

Oh, one more installer?

Yes, it's true, but this one is a bit different than most installers you know!

So, what's different? - I will tell you: Alotta!

First, you do not have to build an installer file, that you have to configure with a lot of options to change. - Simply drag the files and folders into the „parts“ folder an you are done.

The installer checks for the file types and folder names of all the items in the „parts“ folder and is intelligent enough to direct them into their proper destination locations. (See below for the list of featured filetypes). Only if a single (or more) application folder is found, the user has to choose the destination manually, otherwise no (choose folder) dialog will be presented.

Second, you do not need to have a lot of RAM or disk-space running a macgix installation. - the installer itself is 100 kbyte on disk and it needs 768 kbyte of free memory only!.

Third, you do not need to disable virus protection or running with extensions off. - If files cannot be deleted, they will be moved to trash only. There are no patches running during installation so no virus checker will prevent from installing correctly. - A minum system software with AppleScript™ installed is the only requirements for system running a macgix installation!

Fourth, you do not run out of money using the registrered version of the macgix installer. - While other companies sell anual licenses starting with a 1000 installation, macgix sells a productrelated license without a one-year restriction.

This is most valuable to Shareware-authors or people that want to distribute their newest slide-show, web-site, presentation or whatever needs some files installed into the system before runnig it...

More features:

The installer is "Dialog Director/Jon's Commands savvy", that means, it checks if Dialog Director & Jon's Commands are installed and if so, it will produce pretty nice dialog winodws and a progress bar but no Finder messages while installing. Otherwise it will use the Finder's algorithms for copying (no Jon's Commands) and for essentially needed dialogs.

If you want to show your own splash screen, you will have to use ResEdit 2.1.3 and change the PICT ressource #131 by pasting your own picture with 400 x 225 pixels size an 16- or 8-bit color depth.

(I recommend to install Dialog Director 0.7 & Jon's Commands 2.1.2 or later on all MacOS AppleScript™ enabled Computers, they are essentials! And most of AppleScript™ software may use it.)

If you want to know, how to build your own installation, check the „macgix Installer Doc“ in the „Documentation“ folder.

Featured filetypes:

Extensions:

- init (if mistyped!)
- INIT
- shlb
- otst
- appe
- ndr
- SITL (e.g.: Aladdin Stuffit Extension)
- PRER
- FFIL
- thng (e.g.: FaceSpan Extension)

Control Panels:

- cdev
- APPC

Scripting Additions:

- osax
- OSAX (if mistyped!)

Fonts:

- LWFN
- FFIL

Featured foldertypes (prefixed):

The prefix will be removed after installing one of this folder at destination.

Placed into Extensions folder:

- "\$" prefix in foldername

Placed into System folder:

- "%" prefix in foldername

Placed into Application Support folder:

- "\$" prefix in foldername

Placed in a user-defined folder.

- No prefixes in foldername
- **ONE** or more folders in the "parts" folder are allowed!

(The (alphabetically) first folder will be treated as the main application folder, that the user is asked for. The others will be placed in the same directory but not opened directly!)

New features since release 1.3.9:

New installer progress window (more Mac OS like).

THNG-Support : Files with this creator type are directed to extensions folder now.

The installer will quit all open applications before running except: "Script Debugger", "Launcher", "ResEdit" and the "Finder".

This installer has been tested from Mac OS 7.6.1 through 9.0.4 with and without additional Scripting Additions (Dialog Director and Jon's Commands). If the "Application Support" folder does not exist, it will be created on systems running prior to Mac OS 8.

Hints for installations with 1.3.9:

One small cosmetic issue has been detected. Jon's Commands "copyFile" command does not take care of icon positions if copying a folder, so they get lost. Hopefully this will be fixed in a later release of Jon's Commands.

For compatibility reasons you will have to change the creator type of the installer application from "TJM7" to "aPlt" when building installations for Mac OS 7.6.1 users.

Tested on following systems:

*PowerPC G3/400 272 MB RAM (Mac OS 7.6.1 -> 9.0.4),
Apple PowerBook G3/333 192 MB RAM running Mac OS 9.0.4,
Apple iBook G3/300 64 MB RAM running Mac OS 9.0.4 and
Apple Macintosh Ilci 49 MB RAM running Mac OS 7.6.1.*

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