Ghost Tutorial

A Guide To Using Ghost 2.0.1

This guide was written to help users hide files with the Ghost 2.0.1 application. It provides illustrated instructions on hiding and restoring files, folders and applications with Ghost. (Click on images for more information.)

Part A - About Ghost

Ghost is an application built with the Make AutoTyper utility, part of the FileTyper suite by Daniel Azuma. Its purpose is to easily hide and restore files, folders and applications using drag and drop.

Figure 1: The Ghost 2.0.1 folder.

When a file is hidden with the Ghost 2.0.1 application, it is made invisible, which means it cannot be seen or worked with from the Finder, it is locked, which means other applications cannot alter the file in any way nor can the file be deleted, its name is locked so an application cannot somehow change the file's name, and its file type and creator are changed, which means other applications will not recognize the file as a document that can be opened in that certain application, even if it normally could be. These effects are all temporary, and removed when the file is restored with the Ghost application.

Part B - Hiding Files

Hiding files with Ghost is simple. Just keep a copy (or alias) of Ghost in an easily accessible location, such as the desktop, Apple Menu (if you have Glidel which allows drag and drop via menus) or in a popup folder tab. Whenever you wish to hide a file, folder or application, simply select it (or multiple items) and drag it/them onto the Ghost 2.0.1 icon and let go. The Ghost application will launch and

instantly hide the files.

Figure 2: Dragging a file onto the Ghost icon.

The files will be in the same location they were in before being hidden, but you will not be able to see them from the Finder. This prevents others from accidentally damaging or deleting your important files.

Part C - Restoring Files

Restoring files has been made much easier since Ghost 1.0, because you no longer need to have a separate application to manually restore the files. Ghost 2 now automatically restores your files when you drag them from the Find File window onto the Ghost icon. To restore a file, follow these instructions:

1. Open the Find File application by typing command-F from the Finder or selecting it from the Apple menu. Figure 3 shows the Find File window.

Figure 3: The Find File search window.

2. While holding down the option key on your keyboard click and hold the pop-up menu that reads "name". You will be presented with a list of search options. Shoose "visibility".

Figure 4: The criteria menu.

3. Click the "More Choices" button on the Find File window. Then select "creator" from the new pop-up menu. (You do not need to hold down the option key this time.) Then type "GHST" into the creator field as shown. You must type it in all upper-case letters or it won't work.

Figure 5: The Find File search window after step 3.

4. Click the "Find" button or hit enter on your keyboard. You will be presented with a list of hidden files on your hard disk. To restore a certain file, drag it from the Items Found window back onto the Ghost icon in the Finder. It will reappear in the location it was in before being hidden.

Figure 6: The Items Found window of Find File.

Part D - Restoring Folders and Applications.

Restoring applications is much like restoring a standard file. Follow all the same instructions for restoring a file, but in step 3 instead of choosing "creator", choose "file type". Enter "GHST" into the file type field as well.

Figure 7: The Find File window when searching for applications.

Restoring hidden folders is also quite similar. In step 3 choose "kind" from the pop-up menu and then set the second pop-up menu (to the far right of it) to "folder".

Figure 8: The Find File window when searching for folders.

This will actually list all hidden folders on your hard disk, whether or not they were hidden with the Ghost application. So don't be surprized if you see a bunch of folders you've never seen before.

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If you have any further questions or comments, send them to pointb@kos.net. I will try to answer any questions or solve any problems you may have. In the meantime, enjoy Ghost 2.0.1!