ShortFinder

a simple process launcher/manipulator

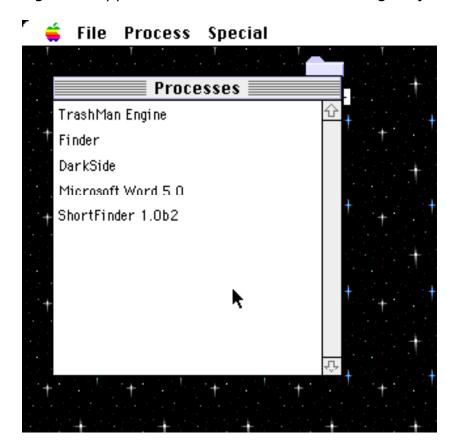
by Brian Gaeke version 1.0—March 28, 1993

What is it?

ShortFinder is a simple process launching and terminating program. It's really simple to use, but it doesn't have a whole lot of features. Its main advantage is that it uses less memory than the Finder (it fits in 68K of RAM as opposed to Finder 7's 300K), and is faster.

How do I use it?

Double click ShortFinder in the Finder. It will put up its Processes window listing all of the 'processes' (that is, desk accessories, applications, and faceless background applications, or "daemons") running on your system.



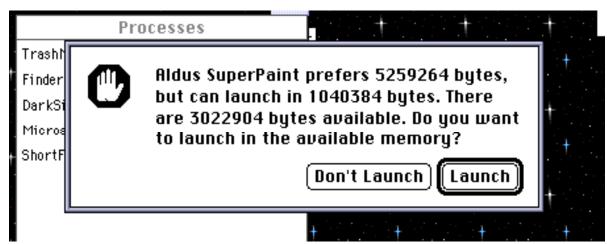
The most straightforward thing you can do is switch to a different processto do this, simply double-click on its name in the Processes window. If for some reason or another ShortFinder is unable to switch to the selected process (say, you double-click on a faceless background application), ShortFinder will emit a beep and keep on merrily running. Otherwise, you will be instantly transported into that program. Dramatic, isn't it?

The Apple Menu

In the Apple menu, there resides only one item of interest, the About ShortFinder item. It will tell you who the author is, when this version was completed, and where you can stick those bug reports.:-)

The File Menu

In the File menu are two items: Launch... and Quit. Launch brings up the Standard File dialog and prompts you to select an application or faceless background application to launch. If you select a faceless background app, then you will notice very little after you click OK, other than the added entry in the Processes window. Otherwise, the application will be launched and brought to the front. If there is insufficient memory to launch the application in its full partition, you will see a dialog like this:



The Process Menu

The Process menu contains several items, listed here.

Show Process Information: Puts up a simple dialog showing the selected process's name, type, and creator.

Terminate This Process: Attempts (and usually succeeds) to terminate the selected process. If it can't, it puts up an error dialog.

Terminate BigFinder: Terminates the big Finder (as opposed to ShortFinder.)
Terminate All Except Me...: Terminates every process except for ShortFinder.
ReLaunch BigFinder: Relaunches the big Finder after it has been terminated.

The Special Menu

The Special menu contains the two most used items from the Finder's Special menu, Shut Down and Restart. They are included for convenience if you've quit the Finder and don't want to have to restart it just to shut down or restart.

If You Like ShortFinder, or If You Don't...

If you decide that ShortFinder is the best, neatest program you have ever seen, please send me a check for US\$30. If you decide that, well, it's OK, but it's a helpful little application, please send me a check for US\$15. Otherwise, send me whatever you wish... a postcard, \$5, even an e-mail telling me _why_ it's not the best program out there for what it does. Here is the address to send your money to:

Brian Gaeke The Dimensional Gate Co. 201 The Alameda Middletown, OH 45044-4805 USA

GEnie E-mail: BRG

Internet E-mail: brg@cerf.net

Upgrades

I will try to produce upgrades when necessary or to add cool new features, and upload them to GEnie and the Info-Mac Archives (ftp to sumexaim.stanford.edu) at regular intervals. Just remember—I am still a student, and my time is guite limited.

Caveats

This is normal first-version quality software. It usually behaves stellarly, but I am offering no guarantees. If it crashes and you break into MacsBug, log the results of the "ir:", "td", "how", and "sc7" commands, and send them to me along with how you got it to crash.

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