

DesktopFolder 1.0.2

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Introduction

Enclosed in this archive you should be able to find an INIT called "DesktopFolder." This little program brings a feature of System 7 to System 6 — the desktop folder. Any file saved or moved into the Desktop Folder will automatically appear on your desktop, as if the desktop were a folder all to itself. (This is (some of) the behavior under System 7.)

Installation

To install this INIT, drag it to your System Folder and restart your Mac. To remove the INIT, drag it from your System Folder to the trash and select "Empty Trash" from your Special menu. If, at startup time, you don't want DesktopFolder to load, hold down the shift key or the mouse button.

DesktopFolder creates, a folder called "Desktop Folder" (surprise!) in the root directory of your startup volume. This is so you'll have a target at which to toss files. Any files which appear in that folder will quickly be moved out onto the desktop. In order to keep the folder out of the way, though, it's marked invisible. It will appear in Open and Save dialogs but not appear in the Finder. Getting rid of it could be a problem, if you decide DesktopFolder is not something you want. I have not here included a way to get rid of that folder. Programs to get this job done include ResEdit (in its various incarnations) and DiskTop. Some programs may not allow you to delete the folder directly — instead, they'll allow you to make the folder visible, and then you can delete it with the Finder. The folder is created once, at startup, so you can get rid of it while DesktopFolder is running. Just make sure you remove DesktopFolder before again restarting, or you'll have to get rid of the invisible folder again.

Incompatibilities

(Currently, this section is empty.)

Distribution

DesktopFolder is relatively freely distributable. It is copyrighted, and all rights belong to me. However, you may distribute this program wherever you like, provided you

- 1) don't charge money for it other than a disk copying or download fee not to exceed \$5 per disk or \$1 per file with allowances for inflation
- 2) include the original documentation

If you are a shareware or freeware disk seller, don't bother me. Do not call me, do not write me. Do not attempt to ask my permission in any way, shape, or form to re-distribute my program. Just do it. As long as you don't exceed the disk copying fee guidelines above, you have no reason to hassle me. I will ignore all communications in opposition to this paragraph. If you absolutely, positively need my signature, you're out of luck.

Usage License

If you use this program for more than, say, a week, you are obliged to, get this... pay one of the shareware fees you've been meaning to pay for a long time but haven't. That's right, pick a program you use fairly often, dig up the documentation file, find out how much the author wants, and pay. Pick the cheapest one if you like. But pay the fee.

Release History

DesktopFolder's genesis was a quick hour of work one night as I watched TV. The basic kernel was done in that amount of time. Since then, I have put it in a few more hours cleaning the thing up. The old 80/20 rule. Anyway, here's the dirt:

version	when	what
1.0a1	early May '91	Initial exploratory release; disappointingly, no email reports, bugs or otherwise. Fair download count, given the file was marked experimental.
1.0β1	mid May '91	Rewrote the GNE filter; preserves all registers; still doesn't like PopChar. Added check for busy file so ZTerm would calm down.
1.0	6/11/91	No reports of bad behavior, so am calling it 1.0 and uploading it again.
1.0.1	6/13/91	Was reminded of better way to check for file busy-ness. Implemented it but didn't bother to upload it because haven't received any complaints and didn't want to create unnecessary version confusion.
1.0.2	10/25/91	Apparently, PopChar now works fine. It was trashing register D0. I now ignore D0. While I was at it, I made DTF check less often for files in the folder. This shouldn't be noticeable to users except that spreadsheets and the like should run that much faster.

Support

All support is via electronic mail. I will be happy to reply to email. Real USPS mail is a hassle I don't like. Voice phone calls are right out. If you don't have any access to email, find someone who does and ask them what to do about it.

America Online: EC Tech
(When will AOL get bridges? RSN.)

InterNet: gurgle@well.sf.ca.us

CompuServe: >INTERNET: gurgle@well.sf.ca.us

AppleLink: gurgle@well.sf.ca.us@internet#

MCI Mail: "TO: " Pete Gontier (ems)
"EMS: " internet
"MBX: " gurgle@well.sf.ca.us

Connect : DASNET
first line of message: "\"gurgle@well.sf.ca.us\"@DASNET